**Raised Bed Gardens: Straw Bales Garden, 7.00, P:1**

**Agriculture Literacy Strategy- Anticipation Guide**



**On your own:** In the space to the left of each statement, place a T if you think the statement is true, an F if you think it is false.

**In small groups:** Compare your answers and discuss why you have agreed or disagreed with the statement.

**On your own:** Read my article entitled *Straw Bale Gardening*, marking the page number or other supporting evidence to confirm or refute your original prediction beside the statement.

**In small groups:** Defend your point of view—politely but firmly.

**Whole group discussion:** What are the benefits of using straw bale gardens and what are the disadvantages?

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| Before |  | After | Evidence |
|  | Straw bales are the same thing as hay bales. |  |  |
|  | Straw bale gardening is much more difficult than traditional gardening. |  |  |
|  | You can prepare straw bales for gardening just by watering them for three to four weeks prior to planting. |  |  |
|  | If you don’t want to use a high nitrogen fertilizer to get your bales cooking you can substitute with blood meal. |  |  |
|  | Watering straw bales after planting is not an issue or concern. |  |  |
|  | Once straw bales have been planted you will not need to fertilize the plants again. |  |  |
|  | In general, planting straw bales is much cheaper than traditional gardening. |  |  |
|  | Straw bale gardening is good for someone with back problems or someone who is disabled. |  |  |
|  | Straw bale gardening would be a good option for someone living in an apartment or condominium. |  |  |