old mcdonald had an apartment house

Judi Barrett, 1969

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Some days later, Mrs. Katz's downstairs neighbor, Mr. Hopkins, turned on a faucet and got hot and cold running sweet potato vines. Above his head he could see carrots popping through the ceiling. He became furious. “Either that garden up there goes or I go,” he screamed at Old MacDonald.

But, Old MacDonald really didn’t care. He had begun to feel that in some ways vegetables made better tenants than people. Carrots didn’t smudge brass doorknobs. Cucumbers didn’t leave muddy footprints in the halls. And potatoes didn’t bang on the radiators for more steam.

Angry Mr. Hopkins moved out.
old mcdonald had an apartment house

Judi Barrett, 1969
where are we now?
where does our food come from?

2% of farms produce 50% of all agricultural products in the U.S.
how is it produced?
our food system uses **more fossil fuels** than any industry except cars

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what are the implications?

40% of global croplands are experiencing **soil erosion** and reduced fertility.
how do we get our food?

the average distance food travels from farm to plate in the U.S. is about **1,500 miles**
how do we get our food?
since 1960, the tonnage of food shipped between nations has grown **four fold**

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who’s feeding it to us?

one in three americans born after 2000 is expected to develop diabetes
who’s feeding it to us?

distance to the nearest mcdonald’s

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what are we eating?
the Revis family’s weekly consumption

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where does it all go?

americans generate roughly **30 million tons** of food waste every year
role of food in our lives
community + cultural health
food has traditionally been an integral part of community

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physical health

68% of adult americans are overweight or obese

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mental health
biophilic benefits of farming and access to nature

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environmental health

83% of the food **GHG footprint** in the U.S. comes from production

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questions we are asking
how can we reconnect with our food?

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how do we best support access to healthy food?

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how do food and resource systems make places?
how do we support what our policies proclaim?
how do our choices shape our food system?
a few examples...
food system matrix
fitting into the food system
center for urban agriculture
vertical farm design concept for the living building challenge

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green gulch farm 500 year masterplan
long-term strategy for local/regional production + ecological resilience

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farm incubator
empowering + connecting new farmers

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university district farmer’s market

direct distribution – connecting farmers with consumers

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Thursday, December 10, 2009
south lincoln redevelopment master plan
urban food access

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urban food access

Thursday, December 10, 2009
lettuce utility
business plan + organizational framework

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business plan + organizational framework

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Lettuce Utility
Business Plan + Organizational Framework

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lents eco-district and industrial corridor vision plan

district level strategies
Lents eco-district and industrial corridor vision plan

District level strategies

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thanks.