



In 2010 and 2011, two big earthquakes destroyed more than 7,500 homes in Christchurch, the largest city in New Zealand's South Island.

A part of the city became too dangerous to build new houses there. Empty streets and **backyard** gardens stayed, and fruit trees continued to grow fruit.

Inflation and prices increased very much in recent years, and people looked for ways to get cheap food. They **turned to** foraging, or going from place to place to find things which they could eat, and they discovered the wild gardens in Christchurch.

Many people started to enjoy this activity, since they could spend more time in nature, and they learned about what grew at what time of year. They said that wild fruit tasted better than the fruit from supermarkets.

Difficult words: **backyard** (the area behind a house), **inflation** (when prices are growing, and the power of money is smaller), **turn to** (to start doing something new).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *backyard, inflation and turn to*
2. How were the thousands of homes in Christchurch, New Zealand destroyed?
3. Why did some streets and backyard gardens in Christchurch City stay empty?
4. What did people do when inflation and prices increased very much in recent years?
5. What positive impacts does foraging have on the people in Christchurch?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Are there areas in your country that have become so dangerous to live in after big earthquakes hit? What has happened to these areas?
2. Since inflation and prices have skyrocketed, how do people get cheap food or find alternative ways to get food?
3. Have you heard of people in your country who turned to foraging after a big disaster occurred?
4. Have you tried going around wild gardens? Did you find fruit and vegetables that grow in the place freely?