

PLANTING



Children love being outdoors, getting dirty, tending to plants and growing their own food. Children learn from growing things. Gardening is educational and develops new skills including Language, Reasoning and Discovery. Gardening can help children learn concepts to help them organize what they see, hear, smell, feel and taste-their perceptions. This happens when we provide repeated concrete experiences that we label and describe with words. Ask questions that will help children focus on differences, similarities, sizes, shapes, cause and effect, weight, patterns and sequences. Hands-on engaging practical experiences where children are encouraged to think for themselves will develop reasoning skills.

Parts of a Plant Poem

Plants need a **stem** to hold them up high,
Branches and **leaves** waving green up in the sky.
Roots drink deep, anchored in the ground;
Flowers first, then **fruit**-on plants they can be found!

Planting –by Dick Wilmes

I took a little seed one day
About a month ago.
I put it in a pot of dirt, in hopes that it would grow.
I poured a little water
To make the soil right.
I set the pot upon the sill,
Where the sun would give it light.
I checked the pot most every day,
And turned it once or twice.
With a little care and water
I helped it grow so nice.



What Makes a Garden Grow, Grow, Grow

What makes a garden grow, grow, grow?
(Measure from floor with hand at 3 levels)
Lots of work with a rake and hoe,
(Pretend to rake & hoe)
Seeds gently planted in a row—
(pretend to plant seeds with fingers)
That makes a garden grow, grow, grow.
What brings the seedlings up from the ground?
(palms up, close to floor, measure at 3 levels)
Rain from the sky coming down, down,
(raise hands high & flutter fingers down)
Bright yellow sunbeams shining round.
(Make arms into big circle overhead)
Help bring the seedlings up from the ground.
(palms up, close to floor measure at 3 levels)

Planting Seeds Theme Art

Holding Seeds Art

Materials Needed: paper, crayon, scissors, tissue paper or seeds, glue. The children trace their hands and cut out. They then glue rolled up pieces of tissue paper or actual seeds into their "hands". This is a follow up to *The Tiny Seed* story.

Seed Mosaic

Materials Needed: Clear contact paper, marker, seeds
Draw flowers on the clear contact. Let the children draw their own flowers! Remove the backing. Children they use seeds to decorate the flowers. Extension: Let the children create their own art work by placing the seeds where they want for a very creative design! They can place them on the contact paper or glue them onto paper!

Books

How a Seed Grows by Helen Jordan
The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle
Sunflower House by Eve Bunting
The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
My Garden by Kevin Henkes
Jack's Garden by Henry Cole
Jo MacDonald Had a Garden by Mary Quattlebaum

Create your own literacy activities at home from pintables' available online.
<http://www.themeasuredmom.com/print-2/>

