

# **STORY TIME**WHAT'S IN THE GARDEN?

#### STORY TIME DESCRIPTION

Do you know where your food comes from? Is it Kroger, Publix, or Wegmans? They are grocery stores where people buy food. Your food comes from a farm or a garden. *What's in the Garden?* by Marianne Berkes shares a variety of rhyming riddles about healthy, tasty, fruits and vegetables and how they grow. Also, included are kid-friendly recipes on each page. Let's grow it, cook it, and eat it!

# CHILDREN'S FICTION AND NONFICTION BOOKS ABOUT GROWING FOOD AND GARDENING

- Our School Garden by Rick Swan
- Planting the Wild Garden by Kathryn O. Galbraith
- Water, Weed, and Wait by Edith Hope Fine & Angela Demos Haplin
- In the Garden with Dr. Carver by Susan Grigsby
- Bring me Some Apple and I'll Make You a Pie by Robbin Gourley
- The Curious Garden by Peter Brown
- The Runaway Garden by Jeffery L. Schatzer
- The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter
- Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
- The Little Gardner by Jan Gerardi
- Lola Plants a Garden by Anna McQuinn
- In My Garden by Tim McCanna
- How Groundhog's Garden Grew by Lynne Cherry
- *Inch by Inch: A Garden Song* by David Mallet
- *Lily's Garden* by Deborah Kogan Ray
- Mrs. Spitzer's Garden by Edith Pattou
- Oliver's Vegetables by Vivian French
- Plantzilla by Jerdine Nolen
- Pumpkins by Mary Lyn Ray
- Scarlet Beane by Karen Wallace
- Sunflower House by Eve Bunting
- *Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens
- *Two Old Potatoes and Me* by John Coy
- Weslandia by Paul Fleischman



- The Vegetable We Eat by Gail Gibbons
- From the Garden: A Counting Book About Growing Food by Michael Dahl
- *Plant the Tiny Seed* by Christie Matheson
- Grow Happy by John Lasser
- If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson
- Zinnia's Flower Garden by Monica Wellington
- What's in My Garden? By Cheryl Christian
- Whose Garden is it? by Mary Ann Hoberman
- Rah Rah Radishes by April Pulley Sayre
- *Planting A Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert
- *Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert
- Soup Day by Melissa Iwai
- The Ugly Vegetables by Grace Lin
- *How Did That Get in My Lunchbox?* Chris Butterworth
- Plant a Little Seed by Bonnie Christensen
- Up We Graow! A Year in the Life of a Small Local Farm by Deborah Hodge
- We Are What We Eat! by Sally Smallwood
- We Are the Gardner's by Joanna Gaines
- Yummy! Good Food Makes Me Strong by Shelly Rotner
- From the Garden by Michael Dahl
- *Garden of Happiness* by Erika Tamar
- Pick, Pull, Snap by Lola Schaefer
- Plants Feed Me Lizzy Rockwell
- Compost! Growing Gardems From Your Garbage by Linda Glaser
- Compost Stew: An A to Z Recipe for the Earth by Mary Mckenna Siddals
- What's Sprouting in My Trash? A Book About Composting by Esther Porter
- *Up, Down, and Around* by Katherine Ayers
- In My Garden by National Geographic Kids
- Surprising Beans by Molly Blaisdell
- Grow It Cook It by DK Publishing
- Let's Get Gardening by DK Publishing
- Gardening with Emma: Grow and Have Fun: A Kid-to-Kid Guide by Emma Biggs
- Ready, Set, Grow!: A Kid's Guide to Gardening by Rebecca Spohn
- Grow: A Family Guide to Growing Fruits and Vegetables by Ben Raskin



#### OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

## **Agriculture in the Classroom**

www.agintheclass.org/va/

Virginia AITC is a statewide educational program providing resources, training and support to schools, educators and volunteers so that they can meaningfully connect children to agriculture. We do this through AITC-designed lessons and resources, educator training workshops, newsletters, school grants, teacher awards, and volunteer projects and initiatives such as Agriculture Literacy Week. Recognizing that instructional time is highly valuable, the lessons are designed to support core subjects and uphold the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL).

# **Kids Gardening: Helping Young Minds Grow**

www.kidsgardening.org

Kids Gardening supports the growing community of parents, educators, and gardeners as they think creatively about ideas to get kids gardening and ways to stay connected to nature. Whether you're a newbie, experienced grower, or somewhere in between, you will find links to kid's garden activities, garden-based educational resources, gardening advice, and other helpful tips to inspire you to just keep growing.

## **Back Pocket Learning**

www.backpocketlearning.org

BackPocketLearning.org is curated and maintained by Life Lab. For over 40 years Life Lab has cultivated children's love of learning, healthy food, and nature through garden-based education.

#### YouTube

"Dirt Made My Lunch" by the Banana Slug String Band

"Roots, Stems, Leaves" by the Banana Slug String Band

"Parts of a Plant" (song for kids about flower/stem/leaves/roots) by Harry Kindergarten Music

#### **Plant Virginia Natives**

www.plantvirginianatives.org Download the guide

Native Plants for Virginia's Capital Region is a FREE guide published by the **Plant RVA Natives Campaign**. This guide showcases the attractive variety of plants native to the Virginia Capital Region, which includes Henrico, Hanover, City of Richmond, Chesterfield, Charles City, New Kent, Powhatan, Goochland, Cumberland, and Amelia.



#### RELATED LEWIS GINTER BOTANICAL GARDEN BLOGS

## Tips for Stating Your Own Garden

https://www.lewisginter.org/tips-for-starting-your-vegetable-garden/

#### **Best Plants for Kids**

https://www.lewisginter.org/plants-for-kids/

**Starting Seeds: Use What You Have** 

https://www.lewisginter.org/starting-seeds/

#### **EXPLORATION – GARDENING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN**

Growing your own fruits and vegetables is fun and easy. Imagine growing, harvesting and eating the food you grow. Gardening with young children is a useful tool that provides a hands-on experience and full sensory engagement. Growing plants indoors and outdoors is possible with ideas such as:

- Windowsill gardening
- Re-Growing plants using kitchen scraps
- Starting seeds in upcycled planters/recycled materials
- Grow herbs in water all year long
- Plant a pizza or a salsa garden
- Create your own compost

# THING TO DO AT HOME TO REINFORCE A POSITIVE CONNECTION BETWEEN CHILDREN AND NATURE THROUGH GARDENING

- Plant a garden of fruits and vegetables (start small and plant what you love and like)
- Eat what you grow
- Look and dig for worms
- Allow children to explore soil and compost
- Compost your fruit and vegetable scraps
- Provide real gardening tools for children
- Provide non-fiction books and concrete materials about gardening
- Utilize resources from this post

