

Dear Caregivers:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!



GARDENS

LETTER OF THE DAY

G g

ASL SIGN OF THE DAY

"Grow"



Your non-dominant arm will form the ground, the forearm lying flat with your fingers curled as if holding a small pot, and it will come up through the non-dominant hand, opening up your fingers as the "plant" passes the top of your non-dominant fist.

BOOKS TO SHARE

We Are the Gardeners
by Joanna Gaines

My Garden
by Kevin Henkes

Planting a Rainbow
by Lois Ehlert

A Peaceful Garden
by Lucy London

Green Green
by Marie Lamba

Dig In!
by Cynthia Jenson-Elliott

Secrets of the Vegetable Garden
by Carron Brown

Too Many Tomatoes
by Eric Ode

If You Plant a Seed
by Kadir Nelson

Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt
by Kate Messner

FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

I Dig, Dig, Dig [action rhyme]

I dig, dig, dig [make a digging motion]
And I plant some seeds. [make a planting motion]
I rake, rake, rake [make a raking motion]
And I pull some weeds. [make a pulling motion]
I wait and watch [place your hands on your hips]
And soon I know [point to yourself]
My garden sprouts [place your hands down low, palms down]
And starts to grow. [raise your hands toward the ceiling]

A Little Plant [action rhyme]

In the heart of a seed [make a fist to represent a seed]
Buried down so deep,
A little plant lay fast asleep.

"Awake," said the sun [circle your arms overhead]
"Come up through the earth."
"Awake," said the rain [flutter your fingers downward]
"We are giving you birth."

The little plant heard
With a happy sigh,
And pointed its petals [open hand and turn up your fingers]
Up to the sky [Raise your hand up to indicate growth].

Five Plump Peas

Five plump peas in a peapod pressed *[press two fists together]*

One grew, two grew, so did all the rest *[let your fingers gradually pop up from your fist]*

They grew and they grew and they did not stop *[slowly move your hands apart]*

Until one day the pod went pop! *[bring your hands together with a big clap]*

Dig a Little Hole [action rhyme]

Dig a little hole *[dig]*

Plant a little seed *[drop seed]*

Pour a little water *[pour]*

Pull a little weed *[pull up and throw away]*

Chase a little bug *[chasing motion]*

Heigh-ho, there he goes! *[shade eyes]*

Give a little sunshine *[make sun]*

Grow a little rose *[smell flower, eyes closed]*

There's Something In My Garden [optional: puppets]

There's something in my garden, now what can it be?

There's something in my garden that I can't really see

Hear its funny sound . . . *[describe animal and/or imitate the noise it makes]*

A *[NAME OF ANIMAL]* is what I found!

"No Roots" by Alice Merton (2018)

MORE FUN!

Paper Plate 'Garden'

Supplies:

Paper plate

Brown yarn

Hole punch

Scissors

Colored cardstock or construction paper

Markers



[Optional] Color the top half of your plate blue to make a 'sky' and the bottom half brown for your soil.

Punch holes along the rim of the bottom half of your plate. String yarn across the plate and through the holes. Knot off the ends when done. This is a great fine motor exercise for kids!

Draw and cut out veggies or flowers that you want to grow in your 'garden' from your cardstock. Your child will have fun planting and harvesting the items over and over again!

Talk about things that grow in gardens when doing grocery shopping. See if you can find foods that grow above ground and foods that grow below ground.

Brainstorm a list of words that begin with the letter "G."

Use a non-fiction book to discuss the stages of growth in a vegetable or flower. How does a seed turn into a plant? What does it need to survive and thrive?

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