

## Gardening and garden based ideas

Mrs Rees, Mrs Fox and I have been sending messages to each other of things we could do in our gardens and we wanted to share them with you! We have tried to keep the ideas simple, keeping in mind that you may or may not have access to 'stuff' at the moment. Why not write about what you do in your [blue literacy home Learning book](#)? Stay safe and enjoy! -Mrs Cameron



- \* Weeding
- \* Cutting the grass (ask an adult for permission first and for help)
- \* Planting seeds
- \* Using twigs and wood, make a wildlife area for insects.
- \* Sketching/drawing/painting close up details of plants in your garden.
- \* Grow potatoes: prepare a seed potato by sticking four toothpicks around the top of a normal potato, so it looks like a crown. Balance this potato around the rim of a glass and then fill the glass with water, so just under half the potato is covered. Place in a dark area. Once the potato starts 'shooting' and the shoots are 1.5cm-2.5cm long, it will be ready to plant in soil to grow your own potatoes! (I saw this on Maddie & Greg's 'Let's Go Live' programme.)
- \* Have you ever tried to grow food without soil? Mrs Rees found this site that could help: <https://dontwastethecrumbs.com/regrow-food-water>. Why not make predictions about if you think it will be successful or not. Let us know how you get on!
- \* In your [yellow maths home learning book](#): draw the shape of your garden and then measure the perimeter (distance around the outside of a shape, calculated by adding the length of all sides together).
- \* Once you have measured the perimeter, why not design your own garden? What fruit, vegetables, flowers and plants would you want to grow? Have a look at websites like Notcutts (<https://www.notcutts.co.uk/plants>) and Suttons (<https://www.suttons.co.uk>) to gain inspiration. Look in the details of each product to find out how much space each plant will need. In your [yellow maths home learning book](#), write down each product, the number you would like of each and the total cost of your dream garden.

Some ideas from [http://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/gardening\\_with\\_children/...](http://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/gardening_with_children/...)

### Catch and draw insects

Carefully use a piece of card to pick up an insect up and then place it in a box or container with some damp soil and a stone or two. Try not to mix different types of insects, in case they decide to eat each other! If you have a magnifying glass, look at them more closely. Draw them in your art book or on a plain piece of paper. Around your drawing, label each part of the insect.

### Create a garden treasure hunt

What will you ask people to hunt for? Could be anything! For example, numbers (find leaves with 1/2/3/4/5/6/7 points), colours (find an example of all the colours in the rainbow; try to match the colours on your clothing), shapes (find an example of a circle, square, oval, spiral, etc.), vocabulary (find something hard, wet, dry, hot, tall, ugly, thick, prickly, etc.), alphabet (find something beginning with each letter of the alphabet).

### Print your initial on the lawn

Draw the first letter of your name on the plain side of a cereal box and cut it out in bubble writing so it's nice and big. Put the letter on the grass in a place which is in the sun most of the day. Hold it down with pebbles or skewers. Leave it for about a week and then remove. What has happened?

**Challenge:** why has this change happened? Do some research and write about it in your [green topic home learning book](#). (Hint: chlorophyll, photosynthesis)

And finally... With an adult's permission, download a free plant identifying app like 'PictureThis' or 'PlantSnap' (be careful of in-app purchases!). Write the following information in your [green topic home learning book](#):

- \* Did the app correctly identify the plant?
- \* What is the plant's common name and Latin name?
- \* Draw/sketch the plant.
- \* What growing conditions does it need?
- \* When does it flower and for how long?
- \* Is it an annual, perennial, or bi-annual? Look up and write down the definitions of these words if you don't know what they mean.
- \* Etc.

