



Our gardens and outside spaces are especially important to us right now; we need fresh air and sunshine. Plus, it is springtime! When it is not possible to go outside, consider “escaping” with us on a virtual, read-aloud garden tour, including simple home activities for everyone to enjoy together.

**Click on a book cover below to open the read aloud in YouTube.**



### Literacy Activity

Listen to the video of The Flower Garden and talk about what happened in the book with your child. Ask them to tell you what happened first, next and last.

Practice clapping the syllables for some words in the story. Say it while you clap.

Ex: flower = 2 claps (flow - er)  
garden = 2 claps (gar - den)

### Dramatic Play or Music Activity

#### Flower Shop Play

With all of the beautiful spring flowers in bloom, wouldn't it be great to have our own flower shop? Watch Ms. Natasha create a flower shop play space with materials found around the house.

Click on the flowers to open the video.



### Math Activity

Review the video of The Carrot Seed. Pause on each page and have your child tell you where each object lies on the page.

Ex: on page one, “What object is in the middle? Is it the boy, the seed or the shovel? *It is the seed!*”

*This activity promotes an understanding of position: left-middle-right.*

Click [HERE](#) to see Ms. Lynn in the activity.

### Science Activity

After listening to Animals in the Garden, ask the following questions:

- What 3 animals eat insects in the garden?
- How do spiders catch insects?
- Which animals spread pollen?
- How do worms make the soil better?

Listen to the story again to find the answers!

Click [HERE](#) to see Ms. Kellie in the activity.

Click [HERE](#) to print activity with pictures.



### Excited to Learn More?

Here are some additional activities you may also enjoy.

### Lola Plants a Garden



Click on the book cover to open the read aloud.

Check out these photos of an actual bean plant starting from a seed!



### Bean Growing Activity

#### Supplies:

- Plastic bag or clear plastic cup
- Cotton balls or paper towels
- Any kind of dried bean (soaked in water overnight)

#### Directions:

1. Dip your cotton balls or paper towels in water
2. Place the wet cotton balls (paper towels) into the baggie (plastic cup)
3. Place 2-3 beans in the container
4. Zip the baggie/cover cup with plastic wrap
5. Tape to the window/Place close to a window
6. Watch everyday for the shoots and roots.
7. After the shoot has a leaf, take it out of the container, plant it in dirt and make sure you water it. How big will your beanstalk grow?

Before you plant your seed, take the coat off of your bean. Why does a bean need a coat? Carefully open up the seed and you might find the root or radicle!

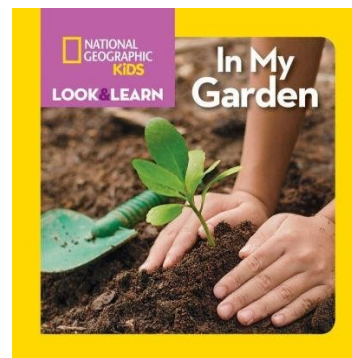
### Literacy Activity

After listening to the video of The Flower Garden, review the rhyming words in the book and practice saying them together:

Great wait  
 bus us  
 floor door  
 snow row  
 street meet  
 too you

### Literacy Activity

Here is another great read aloud to enjoy!



Click on the book cover to open the video.



**Here are even more activities you might enjoy!**

**Math Activity**

1. As you and your child review The Carrot Seed read aloud, **count** how many times the boy's family tells him the seed, "won't come up." *You will discover it is 4 times. Then help your child with two important skills: tallying and counting.*
2. When it is time for a snack, bring out the mini-peel carrots and relate them back to the little boy's carrot in the story. Are the mini peel carrots bigger or smaller than the carrot the boy grew? Wash up for snack and try some carrot/vegetable **patterning** before eating.

**Dramatic Play or Music Activity**

**Plant A Little Seed**

I plant a little seed in the cold, cold ground  
*(Squat down and pretend to plant)*  
 Out comes the yellow sun, big and round  
*(Put arms above your head like sun)*  
 Down come the raindrops soft and slowly  
*(dancing fingers)*  
 Up comes the flower grow, grow, grow  
*(jump up as flower emerges)*

**Math Activity**

Sort and classify things that grow in a garden or on the farm like fruits and vegetables. Pull from your refrigerator by kind (fruit/veg.), color, shape and size.

Compare the sizes of household plants or plants in your garden. Use specific vocabulary like: big-bigger-biggest and small-smaller-smallest/short-shorter-shortest and tall-taller-tallest.

**Math Activity**

**5 Birds**

*(to the tune of "Bingo")*

There are 5 birds up in the tree  
 And this is how we count them  
 1-2-3-4-5  
 1-2-3-4-5  
 1-2-3-4-5

And this is how we count them

Uh-Oh One flew away!

There are 4 birds up in the tree  
 And this is how we count them  
 1-2-3-4-chirp!  
 1-2-3-4-chirp!  
 1-2-3-4-chirp!

And this is how we count them

Uh-Oh One flew away!

There are 3 birds up in the tree  
 And this is how we count them  
 1-2-3-chirp!-chirp!  
 1-2-3-chirp!-chirp!  
 1-2-3 chirp!-chirp!

And this is how we count them

(repeat until there are no birds to count)