



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

Explore the secret world beneath the dirt that brings the world of nature to life: Up in the garden, the world is full of green—leaves and sprouts, growing vegetables, ripening fruit. But down in the dirt exists a busy world—earthworms dig, snakes hunt, skunks burrow—populated by all the animals that make a garden their home. With *Up in the Garden and*

*Down in the Dirt*, you can explore the hidden world and many lives of a garden through the course of a year!

**From Seed to Plant** by Gail Gibbons

*From Seed to Plant* simplifies otherwise challenging gardening concepts for young readers ages 5 and up. The book addresses plant reproduction, seed dispersal, pollen transference, seed germination and more in a way that gets your children excited about learning. The author provides notably bold and bright colored illustrations that include labels with clear and descriptive text from page to page. The pace of the book allows kids to read along in a logical and flowing manner, including page-turn signals for those at the youngest end of the age spectrum. *From Seed to Plant* is great book for introducing elementary-aged students to the interconnected relationship between seeds and plants.

**Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots** by Sharon Lovejoy

*Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots: Activities to do Together in the Garden* (the complete title) delivers parents and children of all ages with a dozen inspiring and easy-to-apply ideas for themed gardens. The author, Sharon Lovejoy, has illustrated the book with her own watercolors creating a beautiful mosaic that takes readers on a gardening escapade that includes the planning process, planting recipes, and growing instructions, all of which are laid out in a step-by-step manner. Not only is the planting and growing concept addressed in this book, but there are also numerous activities to keep you and your child fully engaged. The themes include a Pizza Patch, which is a large wheel-shaped garden that is planted in “slices”, with tomatoes, zucchini, oregano, and basil taking their respective corners. You can also grow a Flowery Maze that upon blooming will create a magnificent space for children to play (and get lost) in for hours.

### **We Are the Gardeners** by Joanna Gaines

Our journey as gardeners started with one small potted plant, but things did not go as planned. Turns out, trying something new isn't always easy, but sometimes, it's the hardest work that leads to the greatest reward.

### **Kid's First Gardening** by Jenny Hendy

This exciting new book contains more than 150 projects for every child from 5 to 12. An introduction covers all the basics, and eight hands-on project chapters then follow, covering everyday techniques, edible treats, flower power, craft projects, wildlife gardening and indoor gardening. Invaluable 'you will need' lists, growing times and a star rating guide provide at-a-glance information to help you choose a suitable project, whether you want a small-scale indoor project for a rainy day or to get stuck in and grow your own flower rainbow, mini wildlife pond or a living wigloo.

### **The Curious Garden** by Peter Brown

While out exploring one day, a little boy named Liam discovers a struggling garden and decides to take care of it. As time passes, the garden spreads throughout the dark, gray city, transforming it into a lush, green world. This is an enchanting tale with environmental themes and breathtaking illustrations that become more vibrant as the garden blooms.

### **A Seed Is Sleepy** by Dianna Hutts Aston

Award-winning artist Sylvia Long and author Dianna Hutts Aston have teamed up again to create this gorgeous and informative introduction to seeds. Poetic in voice and elegant in design, the book introduces children to a fascinating array of seed and plant facts, making it a guide that is equally at home being read on a parent's lap as in a classroom reading circle.

### **Harlem Grown: How One Big Idea Transformed a Neighborhood** by Tony Hillery

Harlem Grown tells the inspiring true story of how one man made a big difference in a neighborhood. After seeing how restless they were and their lack of healthy food options, Tony Hillery invited students from an underfunded school to turn a vacant lot into a beautiful and functional farm. By getting their hands dirty, these kids turned an abandoned space into something beautiful and useful while learning about healthy, sustainable eating and collaboration.