



# Early Learning Coalition of Northwest Florida Literacy Gazette

## Plants All Around!



April is the ideal time to learn more about the way plants and flowers grow. Young children are fascinated by the process of planting a small seed and watching it grow into something big and green. You can help **grow** your child's knowledge about this amazing process by sharing some of these delightful books with them:

[\*Growing Vegetable Soup\*](#) - Lois Ehlert  
[\*A Harvest of Color: Growing a Vegetable Garden\*](#) - Melanie Eclare  
[\*Eyewitness Explorers: Flowers\*](#) - David Burnie  
[\*Plants Are Living Things\*](#) - Bobbie Kalman  
[\*Sunflowers\*](#) - Robin Nelson

[\*The ABCs of Plants\*](#) - Bobbie Kalman

[\*Zinnia's Flower Garden\*](#) - Monica Wellington

[\*How a Seed Grows\*](#) - Helene J. Jordan

[\*Jack's Garden\*](#) - Henry Cole

[\*Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden\*](#) - George Levenson

[\*From Seed to Plant\*](#) - Allan Fowler

[\*The Tiny Seed\*](#) - Eric Carle

[\*Our Community Garden\*](#) - Barbara Pollak

[\*Bread Comes to Life: A Garden of Wheat and a Loaf to Eat\*](#) - George Levenson

[\*From Seed to Plant\*](#) - Allan Fowler  
[\*And the Good Brown Earth\*](#) - Kathy Henderson

[\*Flower Garden\*](#) - Eve Bunting

[\*Mortimer's First Garden\*](#) - Karma Wilson

[\*A Backyard Vegetable Garden for Kids\*](#) - Amie Jane Leavitt

[\*Counting In the Garden\*](#) - Kim Parker

[\*The Surprise Garden\*](#) - Zoe Hall

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### Public Library Information

[Bay County](#)- 850-522-2100

Books for Babies: Tuesday 9:30

Terrific Tots: Tuesday 10:30

Preschool Story Time: 10:30

Hours: M. - W. 9:00-8:00

Th. - Sat. 9:00-5:00

[Calhoun County](#)- 850-674-8773

Story Time: Th. & Sat. 10:00

Hours: M. 10:00-7:00

T. & W. 10:00-6:00

Th. 10:00-7:00

Sat. 9:00-3:00

[Franklin County](#)- 850-670-8151

Story Adventure: Th. 10:00

Hours: T. - Th. 10:00-6:00

F. 11:00- 7:00

[Gulf County](#)- 850-229-8879

Hours: M. & T. 10:00-8:00

Th. & F. 10:00- 6:00

Sat. 10:00- 4:00

[Holmes County](#)- 850-547-3573

Story Time: F. 10:00

Hours: T. - F. 8:00-5:00

Sat. 8:00-12:00

[Jackson County](#)- 850-482-9631

Story Time: T. 9:30 & 11:00

Hours: M. - Th. 9:00-8:00

F. 9:00- 6:00

Sat. 9:00- 3:00

[Washington County](#)- 850-638-1314

Story Time: Th. 10:30

Hours: M. - Th. 9:00- 6:00

F. 9:00- 1:00

# Emotions Poster

## Quiet Seeds

(By: Jodi Simpson)

Quiet seeds are sleeping.  
They're resting in a row,  
Patient, precious, promises  
waiting just to grow.

Quiet seeds are waking.  
They're searching for the sun.  
Stems and leaves and roots  
stretch out.  
The magic has begun.

Write the poem on a large piece of paper and draw the outline of a seed around the words. Pretend to be seeds and act out the poem with your child. Draw their attention to the alliterative phrases such as *resting in a row*, *patient*, *precious promises*, and *searching for the sun*. What sounds do they

hear repeated? What letters make these sounds?



## Kids in The Kitchen



Young children will enjoy measuring, mixing, and making these yummy springtime treats.

### Ingredients:

2 cups of cold milk  
1 package (4 serving size) JELL-O Instant Pudding (chocolate flavor)

3-1/2 cups (8 ounce container) COOL WHIP whipped topping, thawed  
1 package (16 ounces) chocolate sandwich cookies (like OREOS) (crush them into tiny pieces in a plastic bag)  
Gummy worms or insects

### Cooking Instructions:

Pour the milk into the mixing bowl and add the pudding mix. Beat with the wire whisk until well blended (about two minutes). Let pudding stand for five minutes.

Stir whipped topping and 1/2 of the crushed cookies into the pudding (very gently) with rubber scraper until mixture is all the same color. Place about 1 tablespoon of the remaining crushed cookies into the bottom of each cup.

Fill cups about 3/4 full with pudding mixture. Top each cup with the rest of the crushed cookies. Add gummy worms and insects to decorate. Put cups into the refrigerator for about one hour to chill them-- and enjoy!

## How Does Your Garden Grow?

Growing their own garden can be a rewarding, learning experience for young children. Gardening is rich in math-related activities: measuring, sorting, counting, and predicting. Invite your child to go seed shopping with you and choose a variety of vegetables and flowers. You'll need small containers and potting soil. Encourage your child to record

and share information about the garden through drawing, dictation, and discussion. Involve your children in every step of the gardening process from planting seeds, to caring for the plants, to harvesting your vegetables. Your children might even be tempted to eat their vegetables if they grow them themselves!