



# At-Home Storytimes

## Theme: Gardening



### The Gardener Digs the Soil

#### To the tune of Farmer in the Dell

Source: Adventures in Storytime

The gardener digs the soil  
(Pretend to dig)

The gardener digs the soil  
Hi-ho the derry-oh

The gardener digs the soil

The gardener plants the seed  
(Pretend to plant seeds)

The gardener plants the seed  
Hi-ho the derry-oh

The gardener plants the seed

The rain falls on the ground  
(Flutter fingers down to the ground)

The rain falls on the ground  
Hi-ho the derry-oh

The rain falls on the ground

Other verses:

The sun shines bright and warm...  
(Hold hands in circle overhead)

The plants begin to grow...  
(Slowly raise hand from ground)

Flowers all around...  
(Hold hands outstretched)

Fresh vegetables to eat...  
(Pretend to eat)

### Dig a Little Hole

Source: Storytime Katie

Dig a little hole (Pretend to dig)

Plant a little seed (Drop a seed)

Pour a little water (Pretend to pour)

Pull a little weed

(Pull up and throw away)

Chase a little bug (Chase it away)

Heigh-ho, there he goes! (Shade eyes)

Give a little sunshine (Make a sun)

Grow a little rose

(Smell flower, eyes closed)

### Book Suggestions

Grow Kind by Jon Lasser

The Hidden Rainbow by Christie Matheson

Grab that Rabbit! by Polly Faber

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

Lola Plants a Garden by Anna McQuinn

My Garden by Kevin Henkes

Up, Down, and Around by Katherine Ayres

Bumblebee, Bumblebee, Do You Know Me? by Anne Rockwell

\*For more books about gardening, check out our Nature-Plants section in picture books!

### **Possible questions to ask while reading:**

What colors do you see in the plants in the story?  
How many different plants do you see?  
What are different ways to take care of a garden?  
What might try to eat our plants?  
What are some ways we can safely take care of the garden without hurting nature?

### **Possible questions while doing the activities:**

How many garden tools did you find?  
What would you use some of these tools for in your garden?  
What colors did you use on your flower pot?  
How many carrots did you paint?  
What would you grow in your garden?

# Activities at Home

## **Painting Flower Pots**

The flower pots we are painting on are the classic looking ceramic (terracotta) pots. There are a variety of ways to paint a flower pot. You can finger paint, use sponges to make different shapes, or use different paint brushes. This activity is messy so be sure to wear clothes you don't mind getting paint on. Having water and paper towels to rinse brushes, sponges, and fingers off is also recommended. Once your pot is finished, you can put some dirt in the pot, and plant some seeds or flowers of your choice.



## **Garden Scavenger Hunt**

Come up with a list of items that your child can find that they might use, see, and grow in their garden. This activity can be as simple as telling them the items to go and look for. It can also be more detailed if you write down a list of objects for them to look for. You can even include pictures of the items. Once they have found the items, you can plant the seeds together in pots or in your garden bed.

## **Fork Carrot Painting Craft**

Cut out some orange triangles and glue them to some brown paper. Draw a face on your carrots, and you can even glue on googly eyes. Dip a fork into some green paint. Paint with the fork along the top of the carrot to give it some greenery. Once it's dry, your carrot patch is finished!

