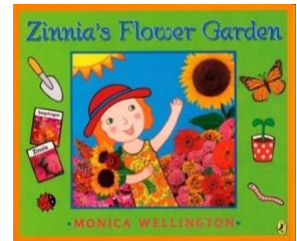




# Home Link - English



Dear Families: In this unit, your child will be learning about things that grow. Try at least three of these fun learning activities, or do them all! The most important thing is to enjoy time with your child and learn about what is happening in the classroom. Please color in the boxes of the activities you choose and return this form to school next Monday. **HAVE FUN!**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Language

#### **What's Growing in the Neighborhood:** (Related to *Zinnia's Flower Garden*)

Take a walk around your neighborhood and notice different things that are growing such as flowers, plants, neighbors' gardens, maybe even babies! Take photos of things that grow. Invite your child to draw and tell you about what s/he noticed.

#### **Conversation starters:**

- What did you notice?
- What do different things (plants, animals, people) need to grow?
- What would you like to grow? Why?

### Math

#### **Count and Move (Forward and Back):**

Take turns with your child looking for objects of different numbers. Start in a crouched position and slowly rise to a standing position while counting aloud to 10 or more. Then, counting backward from 10 or more, slowly sink back down.

### Literacy

**Song Together:** This is a song your child should be familiar with. Use hand motions and fingers for the numbers as you count down.

#### **Five Little Ducks**

Five little ducks went out one day  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But only four little ducks came back.  
Four little ducks went out one day  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But only three little ducks came back.  
Three little ducks went out one day  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But only two little ducks came back.  
Two little ducks went out one day  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But only one little duck came back.  
One little duck went out one day  
Over the hill and far away.  
Mother Duck said (LOUDLY)  
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
And all five little ducks came back.

### Talk and Read Together

(20 minutes)

#### **Conversation Starters:**

- What do you think this book will be about?
- What is your favorite part of the story?
- What is the first thing that happens in the story?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What is your favorite character?

## Gross Motor

### **Life Cycle of a Plant:** (Related to *Zinnia's Flower Garden*)

Ask your child what kind of plant they would like to be. Pretend your child is the seed and you are the gardener. Plant the seed (child) in the ground, cover with soil, sprinkle with water, and warm with the sun's rays. Encourage your child to act out growing into a seedling and then grow into a flower, tree, or vegetable plant. Switch roles.

#### **Conversation Starters:**

- What kind of plant are you?
- What is the first thing that needs to happen? What happens next?

## Reading Log

Check off each day that you and your child read a story together. The books can be in English or in your home language. Visit your public library for great books about things that grow!

Monday \_\_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_ Sunday \_\_\_\_

#### Books we are reading in school:

*Zinnia's Flower Garden* by Monica Wellington

#### Other books you and your child might enjoy:

*The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle  
*Planting a Rainbow* by Louis Elhert

## Tips for Reading Together:

- Sit together in a quiet, cozy spot.
- As you read, highlight and define new vocabulary. For example, "A **bouquet** is a group of flowers that are picked and tied together or put into a vase."
- As you read, ask your child questions pertaining to the book. For example, "How did Zinnia take care of her garden?"