

First PEAS to the Table

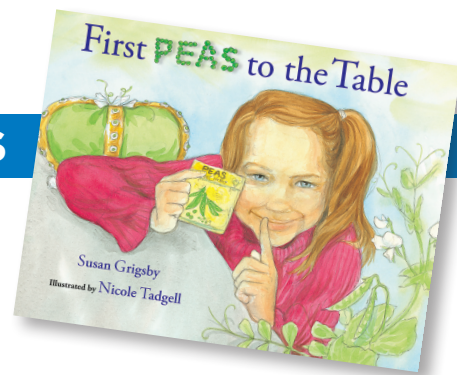
A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Life Cycle of Plants, Gardening, Presidential History, Friendship

Book Brief: This story connects Thomas Jefferson's garden pea contest to a gardening contest in a classroom 200 years later.

Author:
Susan Grigsby

Illustrator:
Nicole Tadgell



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask the children if they have ever tried to grow something. Did it grow? Why? Explain that this book is about a girl who has a garden contest to grow the most peas in her classroom garden just as Thomas Jefferson did with his friends 200 years ago.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

PLANTING PEAS (AGES 5-12)

Materials: pea seeds, potting soil, water, paper cups, craft sticks

Start a garden by filling a cup half full of potting soil. Use your finger to make a hole and place 2-3 seeds in it. Cover seeds with soil. Name the peas like Mya did; write name on craft stick and place in soil. Water as needed and let your garden grow!

PASS THE PEAS, PLEASE! (AGES 5-12)

Materials: variety of peas (including fresh, canned, and frozen)

Using the five senses, taste and compare a variety of peas. Create a chart describing the different peas. Vote for the favorite pea to eat, and tally votes to determine the winner. Include parents and other staff as well.

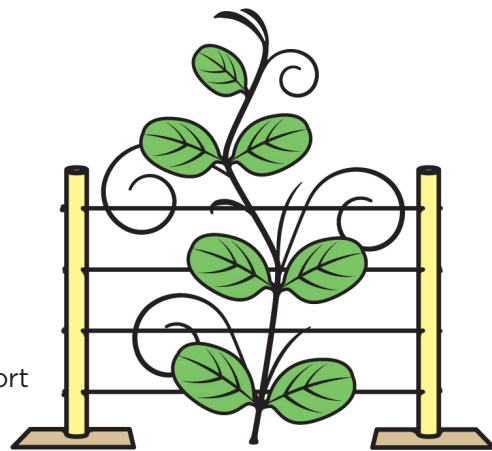


DESIGN A TRELLIS (AGES 8-12)

Materials: string, drinking straws, masking tape, miscellaneous items (e.g., feathers, bells, ribbon, etc.)

Gardeners use trellises to support plants to help them grow and keep away

unwanted pests. In groups of 2 or 3, design a trellis for a garden using various objects creatively. Have each group present their trellis and tell how it is helpful to the plant.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

In the Garden with Dr. Carver (2010)

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT GARDENING

Tops and Bottoms, Janet Stevens (1995)

Water, Weed, and Wait, Edith Fine and Angela Halpin (2010)



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