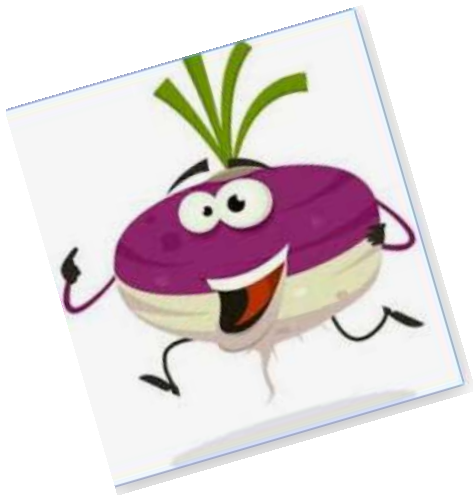


Upper KS2

Gardening: Turnip the Beet!



(Can you spot the pun/play on words?)

Great Garden Countdown...

- Write the following in the middle of your page – **The Goodness of Gardening**
- Now set yourself a timer/time limit of three minutes
- Write down everything you know about gardening in that time
- If you are a slow writer, allow yourself a few extra minutes on your time eg. five minutes or ten minutes
- There are some headings to help you



**Natural
Conditions**

**Equipment
Needed**

**The Goodness
of Gardening**

**Things you can
grow**

**Benefits (good
reasons) to garden**

The Wonder of Words

Draw yourself a table (turning your page landscape will give you more space) and put in the following headings. Collect the words in bold from the text and work out the meanings. Match with a definition from the Mixed up Meanings table. Here's an example to show you what to do.

Word	Have you heard it before? Where?	Best Guess at Meaning	Most likely meaning from the ones below	Any related words?
inventive	My teacher used it when talking about somebody's idea for a story	Something to do with inventing	Using imagination to create something original	Invent Inventing Invented Inventor invention

Mixed up Meanings

Using imagination to create something original	Curious, interested, wanting to find out about something	Restricted, low in amount	Variety of living things
Help, assist, support	Breaking up into small parts as a result of decay – usually bits of old plants, fruit, vegetables etc	Advantages from something. Perks, bonuses, uses, merits	To improve, boost, help further with
To do with learning and education	To take shape, to bring into existence, to happen	Ability to move the body in a controlled way	Goodness in food, nourishment
Good, useful, helpful, productive, pleasing	Not fussy, quiet, simple, unflashy, soft, discreet	The ability to do a duty, job, task, work etc	Friendly to the environment

The Goodness of Gardening

In this time of lockdown, many people have been making the most of any space they have to grow things. We are told that gardening has many **benefits** and even if we do not have a garden, or any outdoor space, we can still enjoy the wonder of watching things grow. Lots of people have become very **inventive** in order to grow things. Have you discovered the joy of growing things yet? Read about some of the benefits this can have and how it can easily be done.



Gardening in UK Schools

The Royal Horticultural Society's 'Campaign for School Gardening' launched in 2007, and since then over 12,000 schools have signed up. The campaign supports the development of **sustainable** gardens for young people's health and wellbeing.

Even if you have **limited** green space, you can still create a garden area. For example, many plants can be grown in a window box or even recycled containers like yoghurt pots, tins, plastic bottles or plastic trays from fruit, cakes etc



What are the benefits of gardening for children?

The importance of gardening cannot be **understated** as it contributes to the conservation of insects and **biodiversity**. In addition to environmental benefits, gardening has a **positive** effect on children and can **aid** physical, emotional and social development.

Below are just some of the ways in which gardening benefits school children, from new skills to improved **academic** performance:

- Physical activity
- Responsibility and independence
- Self-confidence
- Teamwork and communication
- Encourages healthy living



- Promotes relaxation
- Increases memory and focus
- Literacy, numeracy and biology.
- Healthy lifestyles.
- Environmental awareness.



Weeding and Watering

Gardening tasks such as weeding and watering plants and vegetables are a chance for children to use vital **motor skills**. They are also activities which **promote responsibility**.

Seeing the Fruits of their Labour

Achieving goals allows children to become more self-confident, resilient and independent as they see their hard work **materialise**, especially when they are able to enjoy the food they have grown.

What's more, planting and growing food offers children an opportunity to learn about **nutrition**. Children may also be more willing to try new vegetables if they have grown their own, so it could also encourage a healthier lifestyle.

Working Side-by-Side

School gardening means children will communicate and work as a team towards achieving a common goal. This can lead to them developing new appreciation and respect for one each other.

Why not try splitting up a planter into sections? A raised bed with compartments is ideal for team work; each group can take responsibility for a section with a different type of vegetable.

What's more, the act of gardening is a great opportunity for open, relaxed discussions in schools.

Hands-on Activities

The practical, hands-on nature of gardening means children become strong, active learners.

One benefit of teaching through gardening is that children will develop the ability to carry out tasks as they learn, becoming flexible with their thinking; they'll solve problems by adapting to new challenges presented by nature.

This **inquisitive** and rewarding approach to learning can even improve concentration inside the classroom.

Furthermore, children will learn about the environment and sustainability. They can learn about insects and how they have an impact on the development of plants and vegetables. Finally, with **composting** activities for children, it's easy to teach them about loving their planet.

A lot of people grow tomatoes from seed packets, but you can grow them from the seeds inside the tomatoes just the same. Simply save the seeds or just bury an entire half of a tomato. As it decomposes, it will help the seeds grow better.

Potatoes are pretty easy to grow. You may even find them growing in your cupboards when you have left them there for a little too long. You can plant them in a glass jar or bury them in soil, and they will grow roots. Eventually, more potatoes will appear. Repeat the process as much as you want.

Peppers produce a lot of seeds. Collect them, clean and dry them thoroughly, and then plant them in a pot or garden. Pepper plants can be grown in small containers, so they are perfect for small gardens or even apartment balconies.

Cucumbers are full of seeds, and that makes them easy to grow. You can either scrape the seeds off into a pot or garden or toss the unused portion of the cucumber in some soil. A new vine will appear with cucumbers growing from it.



Question Time – How many stars can you collect?

One star questions – getting your brain warmed up/easier to answer

Two star questions – making you think a bit more

Three star questions – more of a challenge

		
Why is gardening important?	Describe three ways in which gardening might promote a healthier lifestyle	Pick four of the benefits listed and explain how gardening develops these
What are the benefits of gardening?	Choose either a potato, tomato or pepper and explain how you could grow this at home	How have people been inventive in their gardening?
If you do not have a garden, where can you grow plants?	What do tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers have in common that make them easy to grow at home?	What do you think 'The Royal Horticultural Society' might be?
How can gardening help children develop motor skills?	What good qualities can people develop through gardening?	Find all the ways in which gardening can be good for the environment
If you wanted to grow something at home, what could you use to get you started?	Look at the recycling garden pictures at the end, write an appropriate caption for each one	Why do you think a lot of people have started getting interested in gardening during lockdown?

Gardening: For and Against

Draw two columns in your book with the titles 'For' and 'Against' – using the text to help you find as many things as you can to go in each column – you might also be able to think of some ideas for yourself. Which column has the most?

For	Against

Poster Persuasion

Make a poster to show the benefits of gardening. Imagine this poster is to persuade Y5/6 children in another school to start gardening. Think about how to make it as persuasive as possible. Use the table of persuasive devices to help you plan your poster.

How to persuade – persuasive devices			
Strong arguments <i>Giving the key information</i>	Alliteration <i>Gardening is great...</i>	Rhetorical questions to get the reader thinking <i>Do you want to get fit without going to the gym?</i>	Words/phrases and imagery that create an emotional response <i>Imagine walking into a green oasis every day</i>
Humour/puns <i>It's time to have a gardentastic time</i>	Colourful eye-catching fonts <i>Learn how to become green fingered</i>	Capitalised words for emphasis <i>On every level, gardening is GOOD!</i>	Repetition of key words/phrases for emphasis <i>Some people would say gardening is the <u>best</u> way of getting through lockdown and the <u>best</u> new hobby they have ever started.</i>
Imperative verbs Create a garden out of an old tin	Power of three – ie. listing three things together <i>Get fit, enjoy the outdoors and grow your own food</i>	Powerful adjectives and verbs Gorgeous gardens Shovelling earth builds up the muscles!	Attract the reader! Engage the reader! Inform the reader!

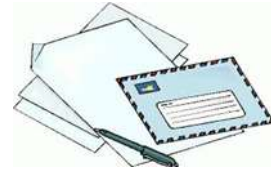
You're right to write!

Write a persuasive letter to your Headteacher to persuade him/her to have a school garden or, if you already have one, with suggestions on how to improve it. Don't forget to use the persuasive devices above and make sure you structure your letter well including:

An introduction

A paragraph for each key point backed up with detail

A concluding paragraph



Instructions

Write a set of instructions on how anybody (either with or without a garden) can '*get gardening*'. Use the information in the text and one of the upcycling project pictures to help you set out your instructions.

Eg. How to Grow Tomatoes at Home

How to Grow Potatoes at Home etc

Don't forget to include:

- An opening statement to 'hook' in the reader
- A list of materials needed
- Step by step instructions – including extra detail
- Imperative verbs
- Adverbials
- Parenthesis for additional information () , , - -
- A concluding statement

