

My Journey Home

Family Connection

Your child will listen to and learn from a book called *Zinnia's Flower Garden*. This book tells about all the things Zinnia does to grow flowers in her garden.

DAY
1

E Is for Elephant Draw the outline of a large elephant on paper. Write these letters below it: *e, m, s, t, p, n, f, b, g, r, d,* and *j*. Take turns with your child writing words on the elephant outline that have the short *e* sound you hear in the words *egg* and *elephant*. Write and read as many three-letter words as you can!

CHALLENGE

Together, create little rhymes using some of the three-letter words, such as "Have you *met* my new little *pet*?"

DAY
2

Growing a Garden Say the rhyme "Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary" with your child: *Mary, Mary, quite contrary, / How does your garden grow? / With silver bells and cockleshells, / And pretty maids all in a row.* Have your child draw a picture to go with the rhyme. Then work together to write a sentence about Mary, using the words *she* and *all*.

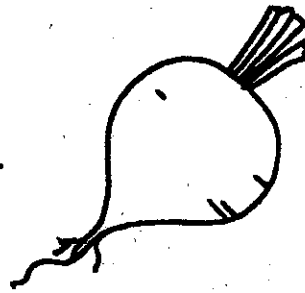
DAY
3

Fantastic Flowers Sunflowers get their name because they look like the sun. With your child, think of some silly names for flowers, such as duckflower, bananaflower, cookieflower, or balloonflower. Together, draw funny pictures of the flowers and label them.

Harvest Time Read the story below to your child. Talk together about what happens first, next, and last in the story.

The Enormous Turnip

Once an old man planted a turnip.
The turnip grew and grew.



The old man tried to pull the turnip out of the ground, but he couldn't. He called the old woman. She pulled the old man and he pulled the turnip, but it wouldn't budge.

They called the dog and the cat. They all pulled, but the turnip wouldn't budge!

At last, they called the mouse. They all pulled and pulled—and out came the turnip!

The Nose Knows Your child has learned the word *fragrant* (good smelling). A flower is one thing that some people think is fragrant. Take turns with your child naming things each of you thinks are fragrant.



Book Links

- *Seeds*, by Ken Robbins
- *The Carrot Seed*, by Ruth Krauss **CHALLENGE**



Internet Challenge Search the Internet or the library together to find information about how vegetables grow. Together, draw and label simple diagrams of vegetables growing above and below ground.