

Homegrown!



Growing a garden is a fun way to find out firsthand how food gets from the farm to your table. This activity will help you get started, and find out some of the good things that gardens do.

Plant a Row!

All farmers and gardeners need to know how much food they might harvest. Use the table below to calculate how much of each crop you could grow in this garden, which has 10-foot-long rows. Write the amounts in the “My Yield” column. But first, you need to unscramble the names of the crops!

Crop	Row Length	Yield
Cabbage	10 feet X	2 pounds per foot
Carrots	10 feet X	1 pound per foot
Cucumbers	10 feet X	1 pound per foot
Peppers	10 feet X	1.5 pounds per foot
Potatoes	10 feet X	2 pounds per foot
Tomatoes	10 feet X	2.5 pounds per foot

Crops

My Yield

arorstc: _____

toatepos: _____

gacbeba: _____

bmcuscuer: _____

motaoste: _____

sprpepe: _____

Total Harvest Yield: _____

Planting Power!

Farmers and gardeners help the environment in many ways, in both big cities and small communities. Match these Garden Facts with their impact on the environment by writing the correct letter in the space:

Garden Facts

- ___ 1. Gardens attract bees and butterflies.
- ___ 2. Gardens absorb rainwater.
- ___ 3. Gardens use manure and compost as fertilizer.
- ___ 4. Gardens make use of vacant lots.
- ___ 5. Garden plants absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen.

Impact on the Environment

- A.** Recycles waste that would go to a landfill.
- B.** Helps reduce greenhouse gases.
- C.** Increases pollinators needed to produce fruits and vegetables.
- D.** Helps protect lakes and rivers from runoff.
- E.** Creates urban green spaces.



Planning Time!

Now use the back of this paper to organize ideas for planting your own garden. List things you will need (tools, seeds, names of crops, etc.), then draw your dream garden and show what you will plant and where!



Gardening Tips

- You don't need a big piece of land to start a garden. In fact, it's best to start small—for example, with a few vegetables growing in container pots.
- Grow foods you like to eat, but first find out what will grow well in your region. Fruits and vegetables all have specific growing seasons that determine when they should be planted.
- Be creative! Plant a pizza garden with veggies you can use as pizza toppings. Or plant a salad bar garden where you can pick what you want for a fresh salad.



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