



SUMMER TO GROW

WEEK TWO - SEEDLINGS

Welcome back!

It's absolutely fascinating to me that one tiny pumpkin seed can grow into a vine with several huge fruit.

I hope that you managed to get some seeds sown, but if you didn't not to worry! You can do that this week too.

This week we are focusing on plant care. If you have some seedlings beginning to pop up, now is the time to protect them from those pesky pests so they have the best chance of survival.

Emma x



PLANTING

If you managed to get some seeds in pots last week, hopefully you'll start to see some seedlings popping up.

Take the opportunity to talk to your child about germination. Next week we will do a science experiment on this too!

If you've planted outside, protect them now, before slugs and birds get to them.

JOBS ON THE PATCH

Keep your seedlings well watered this week. If they become too dry they may not germinate. Let your child take complete control. Limit the amount of water young children have or offer them a spray bottle so your plants don't get flooded.

Make sure you're pulling out any weeds regularly as they'll take up vital space and nutrients that your seedlings will need.





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TIP

Protect your young seedlings by making a beautiful mobile for your patch to stave off birds, or cover with netting. See how to make a bird mobile below.

Slugs and snails come out in the evening when it's wet and warm so if you can, water your patch in the mornings. You can also place crushed egg shells to repel slugs and snails without hurting them.

You might consider keeping birds around to eat the slugs and snails as a form of natural pest control.



SUNDAY IN THE SOIL ACTIVITY: MAKE A BIRD MOBILE

Birds do not like things that make noise, move or shine. Making a bird deterrent using old CDs or aluminium foil is ideal as they'll clatter about in the breeze and reflect the sunlight.

You'll need:

- Strips of foil, aluminium pie dishes or old CDs
- String
- A large stick or embroidery hoop
- Scissors.

How to:

1. Tie your CDs, pie dishes or strips of foil to some lengths of string, leaving one long end.
2. Tie the long ends of the strings to your large stick or embroidery hoop.
3. Tie one final piece of string to each end of your stick so you can hang it. Alternatively, hang them straight onto your bean poles.
4. Hang from a tree or on a post near your patch.

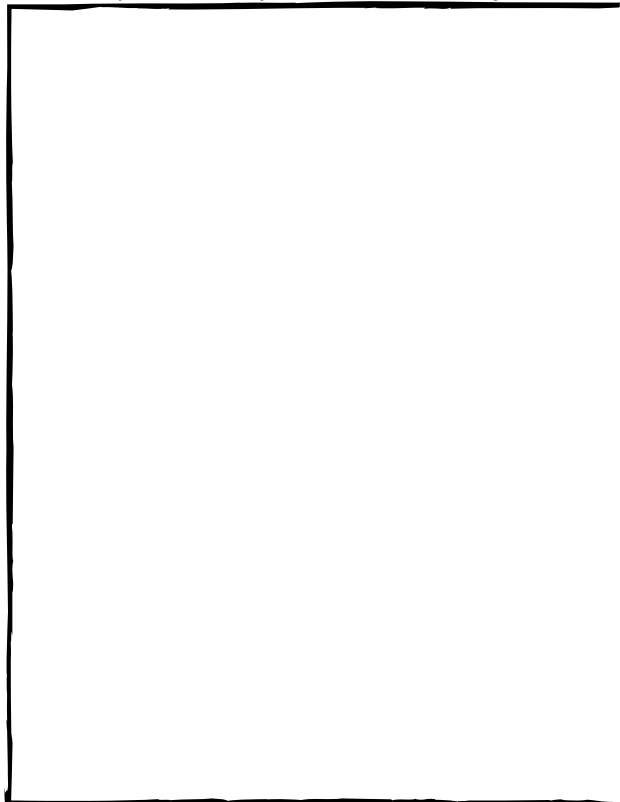


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Date: _____

Draw a picture of your favourite veg!



Jobs on the patch

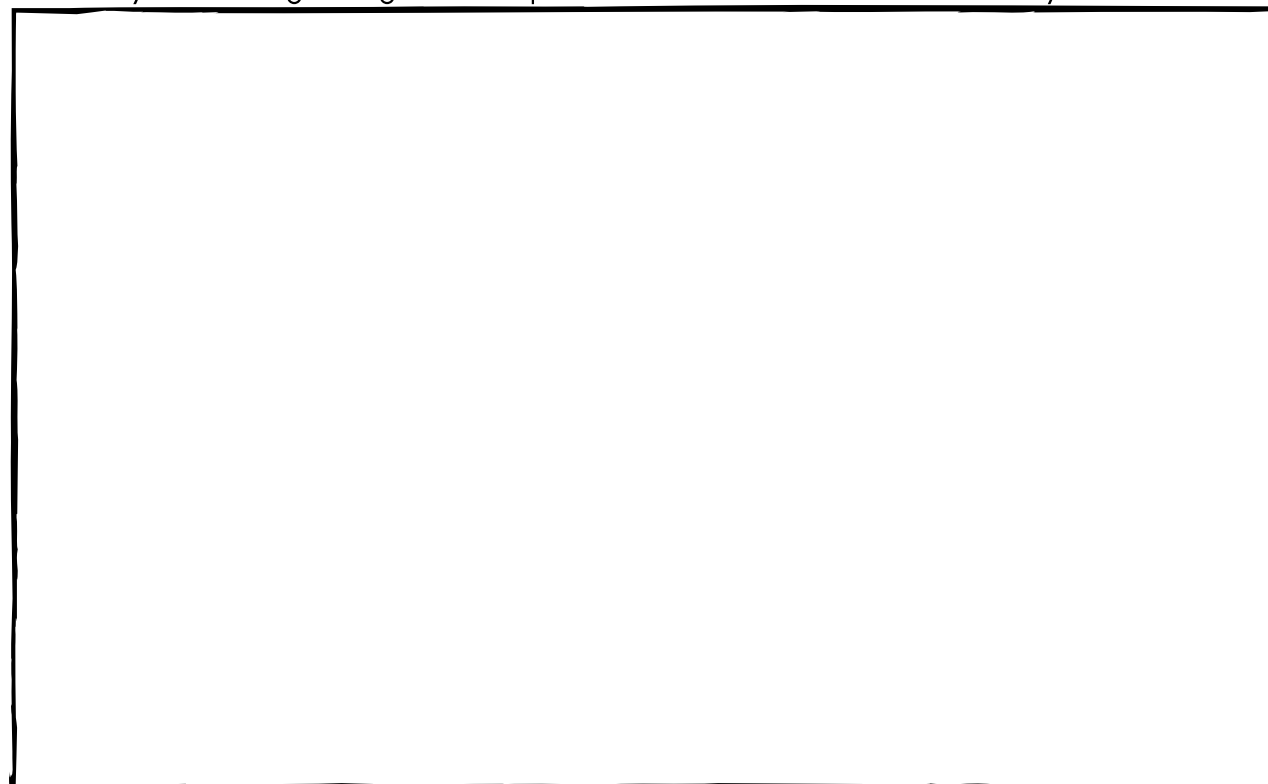
Caring for your patch

- ☐ Water daily
- ☐ Dig out weeds
- ☐ Protect from pests

Other jobs

- ☐ Plant seeds
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

How are your seeds growing? Draw a picture of them here. How tall are they?

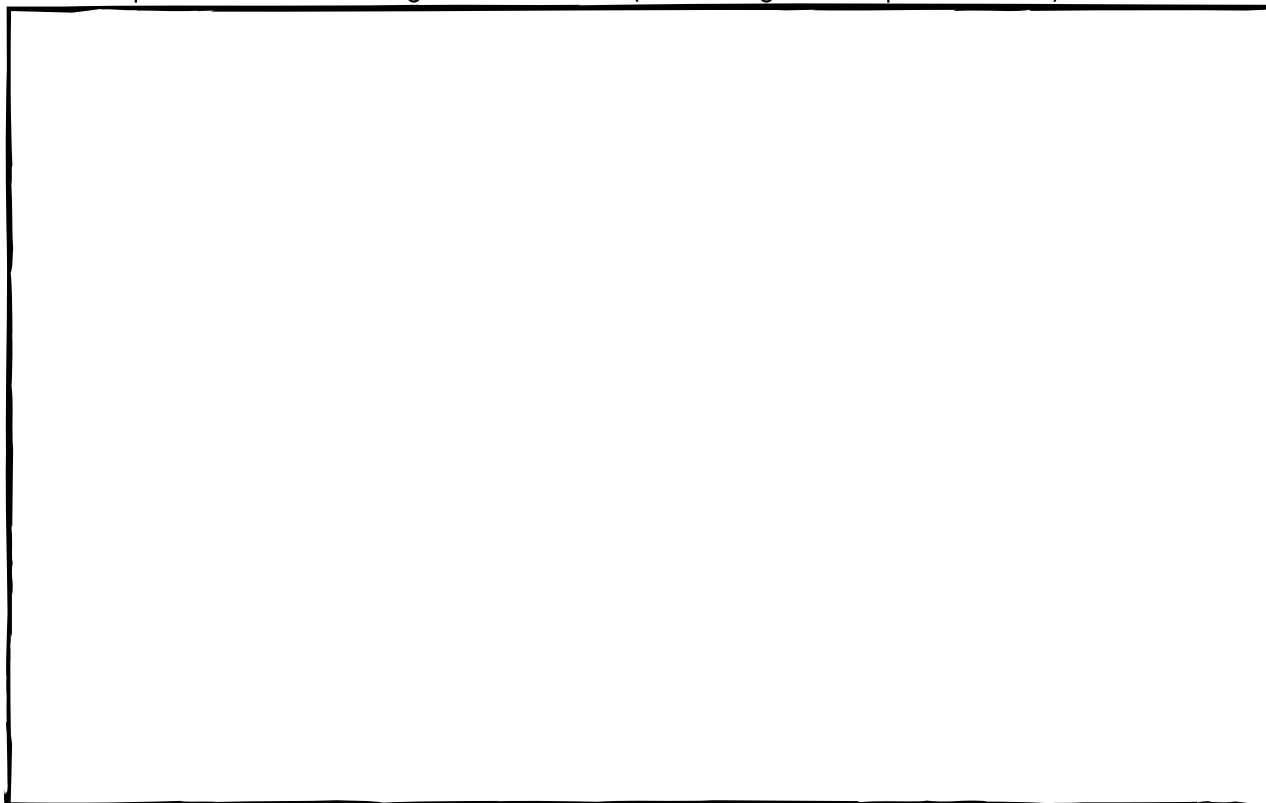


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Date: _____

Here is a picture of me making a bird mobile. (Draw or glue in a picture here)



Picture of my patch (take a photo or draw it here)

