

# CBHL PLANT BIBLIOGRAPHY

## Number 8



### **CHILDREN AND GARDENS**

**An annotated bibliography of  
children's garden books  
1829 to 1988**

**by Heather S. Miller**

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries  
The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458

Other in-print publications of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries are

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

Plant Bibliography Series:

- |    |   |        |
|----|---|--------|
| #2 | Schwartz, Diane. 1978.<br>Vegetable cookery: An annotated list of references.   | \$2.50 |
| #3 | Schwartz, Diane. 1978.<br>Edible wild plants: An annotated list of references.  | \$1.50 |
| #4 | Schofield, Eileen K. 1983.<br>Botanical crafts: An annotated list of references.  | \$3.25 |
| #5 | Zanoni, Thomas and Eileen K. Schofield. 1983.<br>Dyes from plants: An annotated list of references.   | \$2.50 |
| #6 | Miasek, Meryl A. and Charles R. Long. 1985.<br>Endangered plant species of the world and their endangered habitats:<br>A compilation of the literature. | \$5.00 |
| #7 | Schofield, Eileen. 1988.<br>Cooking with vegetables, flowers and fruits: An annotated list of references.   | \$6.00 |

Copies are available for prices noted plus postage and handling.

Miscellaneous publications:

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| Nursery and seed catalogs: a directory of collections. 1990 |        |
| (CBHL Members)  | \$5.00 |
| (All others)  | \$7.50 |
| Postage and handling for this title                         | \$1.50 |

Please send all orders to the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, c/o the Library of The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458.

Bibliography editor: Meryl A. Miasek.

Correspondence concerning submission of bibliographies should be submitted to the Editor-in-Chief, Meryl A. Miasek, 4510 Manzanita St., Eugene, OR 94705.

CHILDREN AND GARDENS  
AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF  
CHILDREN'S GARDEN BOOKS  
1829 TO 1988

BY

HEATHER S. MILLER

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY

THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES, INC.

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, BRONX, NEW YORK 10458

1990

Copyright 1990 by The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc.

The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458

(CBHL Plant Bibliography, number 8)

ISBN 0-9621791-1-6

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction .....	ii
Acknowledgments .....	vi
1940-1988 Non-Fiction .....	1
1940-1987 Fiction .....	26
1914-1939 Non-Fiction .....	44
1914-1939 Fiction .....	50
1866-1913 Non-Fiction .....	52
1866-1913 Fiction .....	55
1800-1865 Non-Fiction .....	57
1800-1865 Fiction .....	59

## INTRODUCTION

Horticulture in its broadest sense impinges on agriculture, botany, ecology and many other fields and includes numerous peripheral subjects as well. The literature of horticulture is vast and within it there is a considerable body of writing for children. This bibliography is an attempt to identify, compile and briefly describe over 300 items that address the subject of gardens for a juvenile audience. Such a compilation, to my knowledge, has not been attempted before, and it is hoped that it will be a useful starting point for researchers as well as others seeking access to this literature. It is also hoped that this bibliography, in pulling together what was before scattered, will serve as an impetus to further valuable and creative research.

In order to bring this project to completion within a reasonable time, certain limitations were imposed. Inclusion was limited to English language books dealing, in general, with the broader aspects of gardening for young readers. Books intended for adults working with children have been omitted. The books included here were published in North America or Britain between 1829 and 1988. The bibliography is arranged in separate groups of non-fiction and fiction within time periods that correspond to convenient North American historical eras. For example, the first heading is:

### NON-FICTION 1940-1988

Under each heading, items are listed alphabetically by author or title if there is no single author. In some cases, the distinction between fiction and non-fiction blurs. If factual material predominates, even if conveyed by a fictional story, the book appears under the NON-FICTION heading.

Books published since 1940 also have two letter codes indicating suitable age groups.

PS (Pre-School)  
BR (Beginning Reader)  
EL (Elementary School Reader)  
YA (Young Adult Reader)

Horticultural books of the how-to-garden type form the bulk of the non-fiction sections. A limited number of books dealing with school gardens has been included because of the basic gardening information they contain, but the school garden, a fascinating topic in its own right, is not dealt with comprehensively here. In general, studies of single species, insects, birds, seeds, weeds, wild flowers,

trees, botany per se, economic botany, ecology, agriculture, plant hunting, nature study, crafts, biography, Bible plants, and mythology have been excluded. Also omitted are coloring and drawing books.

Fictional material treating gardens has been included when it presents a significant view of gardening. Stories that impart a sense of the practical aspects of gardening, the enjoyment to be derived from gardens and gardening or the philosophical basis of gardening have been included. Most of the fictional titles listed here are picture and story books for younger readers. Fictional material with garden themes for young adults is not well represented because there is little of it.

Within these parameters, this bibliography must still be considered less than completely comprehensive because of the ephemeral nature of children's books. It is as comprehensive as time and resources permitted. Because of my own geographical location, and because much horticultural literature is also published in the Northeast, there may be an unintentional bias toward material which presents gardening from this climatic viewpoint.

No one describing books can be totally objective and I have in fact not tried to hide my opinions. One need not agree with them, but knowing how I arrived at my statements and what I like or dislike gives the user a point of departure.

I have also attempted to indicate those books that present organic gardening for children because I feel that such an approach to gardening is not only much safer and more healthful for children (and everyone else) but also that it has much more to teach about the natural world.

Occasionally, I have made comments such as "not innovative." By this I mean that here we have yet another book saying the same things in the same way (lay out perfectly straight rows, plant the tomatoes x feet apart) with nothing special either in content or illustration to pique a child's imagination or give him the incentive to try something new.

Three primary groups of users were foreseen for this bibliography: researchers; parents, teachers and others working with children; and librarians. The time period groupings and annotations should be of use to all groups. For researchers, the annotations may serve as avenues toward the in-depth exploration of particular topics. For librarians and others working with children, they should serve as guides to the selection of suitable material, as will the age group codes.

Researchers will find considerable material here that reveals changing attitudes toward gardening, children and childhood. These books are part of the history of children's literature. They are a reflection of the larger milieu that produced them and are social commentary waiting to be dissected. Dealing as they do with a special subject, these books provide unique insights.

At a time when books for children were rare, horticultural books for them were rarer still. The earliest were pious and didactic, as were contemporary children's books of other types. Not until social conditions encouraged the production of books for children did books become more common. When the ability to read became the norm for most children in this country and the mass production of inexpensive books became possible, the creation of books for children began to develop, becoming today a multi-million dollar per year industry.

Children's horticultural books produced during the last 150 years clearly illustrate the growth of children's books out of adult literature. In some cases it is difficult to tell whether a given book was intended for children or adults. Today the word "young" clearly conveys the meaning of youthful, but years ago it may have been used to mean "inexperienced" as well. Illustrations were rare, small, and black and white. They were intended to impart information, not entertain. When children were portrayed, they were invariably pious, polite and respectful.

Moving through the nineteenth and into the twentieth century, these books show evidence of the gradual absorption of the idea of enjoyment. Books became enjoyable, as did gardening itself. Illustrations became larger and more colorful. Text shrank and often became simplistic. The pendulum has almost swung to the other extreme. Whereas the earliest books treat children almost as adults, the latest sometimes seem afraid to present fact unless it is sweetened with a heavy coating of amusement, or made simplistic and gimmicky. We have gone from porridge and gruel to sugar frosted Cocoa Pops: society in a microcosm.

Two early books by American nurserymen, Joseph Breck's The Young Florist and Joseph Harris's Gardening For Young and Old, clearly show roots in their own times as well as elements of their author's innovative ideas, making them of considerable interest to researchers. They also contrast sharply with twentieth century books of a similar type. Similar intriguing comparisons and insights can be derived from the comparison of other books listed here.

Late nineteenth and early twentieth century books sometimes seem reluctant to indicate active involvement with soil. For example, once girls began to appear as gardeners in children's horticultural books, there were only certain kinds of work that were depicted as suitable for them. Typically, this would focus on flowers, leaving the "dirty" work to someone like the family gardener to do! The whole female/flower connection is a theme unto itself. As we approach the twenty-first century, we find no such reservations. The children, both male and female, presented in current books have no qualms about soil, worms, slugs, bugs, compost and the like.

Fictional books featuring gardens contain some of the finest presentations of the spiritual value of gardens. As research material



they are no less valuable than non-fiction material. It too shows a progression from humble beginnings somewhat later than non-fiction to today's rather free-wheeling approach. We have gone from the pious boy-gardener to an era in which female mice and alligators cultivate their own gardens.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Creation of this bibliography has taken several years and has involved the cooperation of many individuals and institutions.

Considerable credit must go to my present institution, The University at Albany, State University of New York. I could not have completed this project without the cooperation and hard work of the staff of the Interlibrary Loan Department who continued to smile despite an ever-increasing avalanche of requests. In addition, several interesting items were located in the Special Collections Department of this university. I was also assisted toward the completion of this project by the award of a New York State/United University Professions Study Leave Grant, which gave me four weeks of freedom and paid most of my expenses during that time, permitting me to visit Boston and New York and to devote a block of time solely to research and writing. My appreciation also goes to my supervisor, Sharon Bonk, Assistant Director for Technical Services, University Libraries, for urging me to complete this bibliography and for allowing me time as well as the use of the equipment necessary to produce it.

A number of unusual items were located at the Boston Athenaeum where Director and Librarian Rodney Armstrong and his staff provided considerable assistance. I spent a fruitful week under the tutelage of Ms. Brenda Weisman who gave me free rein to use the collection of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Library and whose enthusiasm helped spur me on. Another very productive day was spent in the library of the New York Horticultural Society where I was warmly welcomed and assisted by Vicki Moeser. Several days were spent in the newly refurbished and reinvigorated Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library where Librarian Walter Punch encouraged my use of the collection and ferreted out older material for my examination. In the earliest days of this project I photocopied catalog cards and prowled the stacks at the New York Botanical Garden Library thanks to the generosity and interest of the late Charles R. Long and his staff. A productive day was spent in the Library of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society where I was given a warm welcome and considerable assistance by former Librarian Mary Lou Wolfe. Useful material was also gleaned from two of the great public libraries of this country: the Boston Public Library and the New York Public Library.

I am profoundly indebted to all of these and others who helped bring this project to completion.

## 1940-1988 NON-FICTION

- Abell, Elizabeth. 1969. Flower gardening. New York: F. Watts. 84 p. Illustrated. YA

A good introduction to flower gardening for novices, this is notable for emphasizing the need for healthy soil in order to grow healthy plants, but offers no suggestions for "plant food" other than chemical fertilizers. Illustrations are black and white drawings and photographs.

- Aliki. 1976. Corn is maize: the gift of the Indians. New York: Crowell. 33 p. Illustrated. EL

The origin of this all-important and popular vegetable is presented here for young readers.

- Ashberry, Anne. 1964. Bottle gardens and fern cases. New York: Bonanza Books. 120 p. Illustrated. YA

Going beyond terrariums, this book treats the subject of true bottle gardens and Wardian cases. It includes detailed advice and historical information of great value despite its British origin which means that some species and products mentioned may be unavailable in North America.

- Baker, Samm Sinclair. 1966. The indoor and outdoor grow-it book. New York: Random House. 65 p. Illustrated. EL

Here are numerous simple projects to introduce children to gardening, suitable for home or school, but no innovative ideas, and pedestrian illustrations.

- Bates, Alfred. 1941. The gardener's third year trees, vines and shrubs. New York: Longmans, Green. ix, 310 p. Illus. YA

This is the third in Bates' series of beginning gardening books. With his usual generous supply of personal opinion, he discusses the complete outdoor garden in great detail. The first two books appear in the section 1914-1939. All are valuable reading for most any gardener.

Bates, H.E. 1941. The seasons & the gardener. Cambridge: University Press. vii, 68 p. Illustrated. YA

This is a quality book for young people, sensitive, insightful and full of good advice arising from the belief that the need for growing flowers is a deeply rooted part of human nature.

Beck, Barbara L. 1970. Vegetables. New York: F. Watts. 63 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

The characteristics, lore, and uses of 46 common and not so common vegetables, illustrated with attractive black and white drawings, are presented. There is no cultural information, but it is a good adjunct to such material.

Brown, Ann Towson. 1958. How does a garden grow? New York: E.P. Dutton. 46, [2] p. Illustrated. EL

Emily and Alice start seeds indoors, transplant, thin, weed, water, cultivate, and finally harvest plants from their own garden. The book gives a good idea of what it is like to have a garden from start to finish. Black and white photographs show children following the processes described.

Brown, Marc Tolon. 1981. Your first garden book. 1st ed. Boston: Little, Brown. 48 p. Illustrated. EL

Interesting projects and amusing colored illustrations make this one of the better how-to books for young gardeners. Each project is clearly explained, recipe style. Hints, lore and humor are interspersed. Projects include desert gardens, planting in sidewalk cracks, pumpkin culture and crafts.

Buck, Margaret Waring. 1952. In yards and gardens. New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 72 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This unexciting, but useful, book has descriptive entries not only on garden flowers and vegetables, but on all manner of living things found in gardens. Black and white illustrations are by the author.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. 1967. Flowerpot gardens. New York: Crowell. 48 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This simplest of introductions to indoor gardening features a few sentences about each of twenty common plants with an attractive linoleum-block print illustrating each.

Busch, Phyllis S. 1968. Lions in the grass; the story of the dandelion, a green plant. Cleveland: World Pub. Co. [38] p. illus. EL/YA

Black and white photographs illustrate this story of the life and habits of the flower that always attracts children. Rather than treating their favorite plant as a pest, this book helps them learn about it.

Bush-Brown, Louise (Carter). 1962. Young America's garden book. New York: Scribner. 280 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Comprehensive, authoritative and fun, this book covers every aspect of gardening and is a fine source of inspiration and information. It includes a number of imaginative projects of use to parents and teachers.

Cameron, Ann. 1975. The seed. New York: Pantheon Books. [27] p. Illustrated. EL

Delicately colored paintings illustrate the story of how a seed germinates and begins to grow. This is a nice graphic presentation of an elementary botanical principle, useful in helping young gardeners understand what happens to the seeds they plant.

Carleton, R. Milton. 1970. Indoor gardening fun; year-round projects for children. Chicago: Reilly & Lee. 85 p. Illustrated. EL

These are good projects to introduce children to the joys of growing plants. The projects are noteworthy for their simplicity, likelihood for success, and year round focus. An excellent chapter entitled "Words For Parents And Teachers" eloquently explains the importance of a garden to a young child.

Casey, Lydian. 1975. Outdoor gardening. Minneapolis: Lerner Pub. Co. 32 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Containing basic, organic gardening principles for children using simple black and white illustrations, this book covers vegetables, flowers, herbs, bulbs, and even how to plant a tree to "grow with you."

Cavagnaro, David and Maggie Cavagnaro. 1979. The pumpkin people. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books. 32 p. EL

This true story, illustrated with colored photographs, follows Pippin's garden from planting to the harvest celebration and the

carving of Jack-O'-Lanterns that seem to come to life. It is an unusual story that shows children the life-death-life cycles in the garden in a gentle, happy way.

Chinery, Michael. 1984. In the garden. London: Granada. 43 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Nature and plant lore, with colorful illustrations, make this an appealing adjunct to gardening manuals. However, its British viewpoint will require some interpretation. Bird and insect species differ from North American ones and the interesting hedgehog is not to be found on this side of the Atlantic.

Coffey, Ernestine S. and Dorothy Fitch Minton. 1957. Your own book of nature and garden fun. New York: Hearstside Press. 63 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Numerous ideas for garden related projects including gardening, conservation, crafts, bird study and decorations are accompanied by simple illustrations and clear instructions.

Conklin, Gladys. 1978. Praying mantis, the garden dinosaur. New York: Holiday House. [29] p. Illustrated. EL/YA

An excellent introduction to a fascinating creature that young gardeners are sure to encounter, this book gives a basic life history and includes advice on keeping a pet mantis.

Cooke, Emogene. 1957. Fun-time window garden. Chicago: Children's Press. 31 p. EL

Simple projects for young children include starting seeds, cuttings, carrots and other root vegetables; avocados; making a hanging bottle for vines; and making a soil sifter. Illustrations are straightforward, but pedestrian.

Cowell, Cyril. 1954. Your gardening book. London: Faber & Faber. 72 p. Illustrated. YA

Attractive black and white drawings by the author combine here with detailed information on many aspects of gardening, including special types of gardens for the serious young gardener.

Creative Education, Inc. 1974. How to have fun with a flower garden.  
Mankato, MN: Dist. by Children's Press. 31 p. Illus. EL/YA

Illustrated in color and black and white, this book gives basic information about growing some common, easy flowers. Kids who have grown up gardening will have gone beyond this book by the time they can read it, but it is suitable for the complete novice.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1974. How to have fun with a vegetable garden.  
Mankato, MN: Dist. by Children's Press. 31 p. Illus. EL/YA

Similar to the previous book, this one deals with vegetable gardening, giving a two page spread for each vegetable. It also includes good, clear black and white drawings.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1974. How to have fun with an indoor garden.  
Mankato, MN: Dist. by Children's Press. 31 p. Illus. EL/YA

Very simple instructions for planting indoor gardens from seeds and vegetable tops, including herbs and terrariums, are combined with lively colored and black and white drawings.

Cutler, Katherine N. 1961. The beginning gardener. New York: M. Barrows. vi, 173 p. Illustrated. YA

Solid information with minimal illustrative matter covers plants, planning and planting gardens, soils, compost, and garden care. Unusual features are chapters on exhibiting, planting a garden for birds, seashore gardens, wild flower gardens and gardening projects in which adults and young people work together.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1973. Growing a garden indoors or out. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard. 96 p. Illustrated. YA

A well written explanation of plant growth and the principles of gardening. Clear, easily understood but not simplistic, this book respects the intelligence and abilities of young people. The final chapter, "Enjoying and Sharing Your Garden," is especially good. The black and white drawings are clear and attractive.

Cuyler, Margery. 1980. The all-around pumpkin book. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. 95 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

From growing to cooking, lore and crafts, this book tells kids all they need to know about this favorite crop.

Daddona, Mark. 1980. Hoe, hoe, hoe. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley. 58 p. EL

A basic introduction to vegetable gardening with straightforward advice and bright illustrations, this book recommends organic practices.

Daly, Kathleen. 1976. A child's book of flowers. Illustrated by Susan Carleton Smith. Garden City, NY: Doubleday. 44 p. EL/YA

This book is an excellent introduction to common garden and wild flowers, coupling basic information with the unusually sensitive, attractive and botanically accurate drawings and watercolors of Susan Carleton Smith. Tiny insects pursuing some rather un-insect-like activities add humorous touches. No child should miss Ms. Smith's unique interpretations of our garden inhabitants.

Davis, Burke. 1976. Newer and better organic gardening. New York: Putnam. 95 p. YA

An excellent, well-written introduction to the philosophy and techniques of organic gardening, this book also includes a discussion of a number of specific vegetables and herbs. Bibliography, sources, planting table and zone maps are included.

Doole, Louise Evans. 1964. Herb and garden ideas. New York : Sterling. 128 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This is not a how-to-garden book, but a compilation of ideas – interesting plants, garden designs, attracting birds, building projects, parties, recipes, games with garden themes, crafts, growing indoor plants. There are many useful projects, some simple enough to use with preschoolers.

Dowdell, Dorothy and Joseph Dowdell. 1975. Careers in horticultural science. Rev. ed. New York: J. Messner. 222 p. YA

Don't be put off by the date of this book. Although some of the directory information is indeed out of date, the basic information is still good. Anyone considering turning an interest in horticulture into a life's work will find solid background information and practical examples.



Dowden, Anne Ophelia. 1979. A chronicle of herbs. Illustrated by the author. New York: Collins. 80 p. YA

Delicate, botanically accurate paintings accompany a thorough text on the history, lore, and uses of numerous herbs, culinary and other, in an unusual, special book.

Eckstein, Joan and Joyce Gleit. 1975. Fun with growing things; a guide to indoor and outdoor gardening for kids. New York: Avon. 156 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

An upbeat, understandable, straightforward approach to gardening for kids, this book includes vegetables, flowers, rock gardens, bulbs, indoor plants, terrariums, crafts, lists of helpful animals and terminology. Much of the text is in recipe format.

Elbert, Virginie. 1977. Grow a plant pet. Garden City, NY: Doubleday. 158 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This book makes a valuable point: a plant is a real pet, living and in need of care just as an animal is. Included is basic information and a section on specific plants.

Fatigati, Evelyn. 1977. Garden on Greenway Street. Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press. 133 p. Illustrated. YA

An organic gardening manual presented as a story about a boy who helps his grandparents with their garden, this is an enjoyable, imaginative presentation of a topic rarely explored for children.

Fenton, D.X. 1973. Gardening ... naturally. New York: Watts. 87 p. Illustrated. YA

Not clearly juvenile, this book presents a thorough, basic introduction to the philosophy and methods of organic gardening. Unusually fine line drawings add to its appeal.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1974. Indoor gardening. New York: Watts. 61 p. Illustrated. YA

Basic, general introductory information on indoor gardening presented here is not comprehensive, but fairly wide-ranging and useful as a starting point.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1969. Plants for pots; projects for indoor gardeners. Philadelphia: Lippincott. 125 p. Illustrated. YA

Fenton aims to give young people the information they need to enjoy gardening year round. The author covers a variety of plants, terrariums and bulbs; including ideas for each month. Attractive pen and ink drawings.

Fink, Ed. 1976. Look mom, it's growing. Berrington, IL: Countryside Books; Chicago: Distributed by Follett. 71 p. Illustrated. EL

Basic gardening information is presented with an emphasis on indoor gardening, including culture, free plants, sprouts for food, terrariums and bits of botanical data.

Fletcher, Helen J. 1957. Indoor gardens. Darien, CT: Teachers Pub. Corp. 64 p. Illustrated. EL

A rather pedestrian, elementary treatment of house plants, terrariums and dish gardens; illustrated with black and white photographs.

Flory, Arthur. 1945. Where are the apples? New York: Arco. [27] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

A simple text and bright pictures convey the essence of the orchard, the seasons, and the processes required for the tree to produce apples.

Fry, Mary Anne. 1971. Steps to grow on; gardening projects for children. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Flower and Garden Show. [14] p. EL

Simple, instructive projects for children arranged by seasons.

Gagg, J.C. 1966. Gardens and gardening. Oxford: Blackwell. 62 p. Illustrated. EL

Basic introduction to plants and gardens, encouraging youngsters to ask questions and to answer those posed in the book. Includes information on how garden plants grow, tools, specific vegetables, general information on flowers and fruits.

Garland, Sarah. 1983. Peter Rabbit's gardening book. London: F. Warne. 48 p. Illustrated. EL

This is a basic how-to-garden text given life and charm by illustrations taken from Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit books. The

illustrations have been carefully chosen and are appropriate to the text they accompany. There is much useful information here, but some of it lacks depth and some terms, e.g. marrows, in this British publication will be meaningless to North American youngsters.

Giannoni, Frances. 1962. *The Golden Book of gardening; how to plan, plant, and care for a home garden.* New York: Golden Press. 68 p. Illustrated. YA

This good introduction to all aspects of gardening is well illustrated with drawings and color photographs. Unfortunately, it recommends the use of DDT, long since banned.

Gould, Dorothea. 1943. *Very first garden.* New York: Oxford University Press. 48 p. Illustrated. YA

Basic, sometimes oversimplified, instructions for a youngster's first garden of flowers and vegetables. No mention of compost, wide rows, insects or disease, but it does convey the pleasure of gardening.

Graham, Ada and Frank Graham. 1974. *Dooryard garden; Tim & Jennifer's calendar from planning to harvesting.* New York: Four Winds Press. 91 p. Illustrated. EL

A brother and sister plan and plant an organic garden on their family farm with its population of domestic and wild animals. Shows a whole way of life. The story is followed by six very simple projects.

Griffin-King, J. 1977. *Indoor gardening.* Loughborough: Ladybird Books. 50 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Attractive, full-page paintings add to the appeal of this small book of basic indoor gardening information, noteworthy for its straightforward instructions and useful ideas.

Hall, R.M. and D. Perkins. 1941. *Gardening.* In *Home handicraft for girls; interesting things to make & do.* Philadelphia: Lippincott. pp. 125-182. Illustrated. YA

Simple gardening advice and construction projects still useful today.

Hathaway, Polly. 1965. The beginning knowledge book of flowers. New York: Macmillan. [31] p. Illustrated. EL

Basic information on 18 common flowers including bulbs, annuals and perennials, with an introductory text on how flowers grow. Some of the illustrations are striking, but overall this is not an exciting book.

Herda, D.J. 1977. Making a native plant terrarium. New York: Messner. 93 p. Illustrated. YA

There are better general terrarium books than this. Moreover, the illustrations are not clear enough to permit plant identification, nor are the "native" plants all native. One also wonders why the avocado and pineapple were included.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1979. Vegetables in a pot. New York: Messner. 94 p. Illustrated. EL

While growing vegetables in containers is not quite as easy as the author's enthusiasm implies, children who cannot garden elsewhere and want to give container growing a try will find basic information.

Hoke, John. 1972. Terrariums. New York: F. Watts. 90 p. Illustrated. YA

A very thorough treatment of the topic, with imaginative ideas and careful attention to creating an appropriate ecosystem for the desired contents of the terrarium.

Holmes, Anita. 1974. Plant fun; ten easy plants to grow indoors. New York: Four Winds Press. 125 p. Illustrated. YA

Not strictly juvenile, this book provides a thorough treatment of basic indoor gardening techniques followed by in-depth discussion of nine easy-to-grow house plants. Attractive illustrations add to the book's appeal.

Howard, Edwin L. 1940. Children's gardens. London: Studio Publications. 64 p. EL/YA

Interesting ideas for the construction of special gardens for children, but projects far too elaborate and expensive for most of us.

Hudlow, Jean. 1971. Eric plants a garden. Chicago: Whitman. [36 p.] Illustrated. EL

A very good book where kids will see, in color and black and white photographs, a small person similar to themselves plant a garden and have great fun doing so. Along the way readers learn exactly how to do the same.

Hunt, Linda and others. 1983. Celebrate the seasons; a "love your neighbor" gardening book. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press. 163 p. Illustrated. EL

Reverence for the earth is the underlying theme of this basic gardening book for youngsters. The advice is generally good. The illustrations are child-like drawings, little ladybugs offering bits of advice and a few Biblical quotes. Steers away from pesticides. Includes recipes. Some unconventional advice such as planting in patterns other than straight rows is included. Pollination is consistently misspelled.

Jobb, Jamie. 1977. My garden companion; a complete guide for the beginner with a special emphasis on useful plants and intensive planting in the wayside, dooryard, patio, rooftop, and vacant lot. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books; New York: Scribner's. 337 p. Illustrated. YA

This book is packed with imaginative, inspiring and useful information for the aspiring young gardener. Organic in philosophy, it includes much more than cultural information. Includes much general and specific information and a dictionary of garden language. Lists of seed catalogs, suppliers, and information sources are somewhat out of date.

Johnson, Hannah L. 1977. From apple seed to applesauce. New York: Lothrop. [42] p. Illustrated. EL

An in-depth treatment on a child's level of apple biology, culture, and production, useful for understanding how a tree grows and produces fruit, as well as for learning about the commercial production of fruit crops. Clearly indicates the tremendous amount of spraying needed to produce the "perfect" apple.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1974. From seed to Jack-O'-Lantern. New York: Lothrop. 39 p. Illustrated. EL

Photographs and text illustrate planting and development of pumpkins on a farm. At harvest time, children come to pick out Jack-O'-Lanterns. Nice photographs of pumpkins and children, but not as comprehensive as Cuyler's book.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1978. From seed to salad. New York: Lothrop. [40] p. Illustrated. EL

A thorough, straightforward description of planning, planting, cultivating, harvesting, and eating a salad garden, illustrated with photographs of young gardeners at work. Includes organic methods.

Johnson, Jan. 1979. Gardening without soil. New York: Lippincott. 83 p. Illustrated. YA

Explains how to grow plants hydroponically or in soilless mixes. Detailed instructions and clever ideas for simple vegetable and flower gardens. Especially useful for schools and city dwellers.

Jolly green gardener newsletter. Vol. 1 (July 1971)-v.12, no.1 (1982). Denver: Denver Botanic Gardens. Illustrated. EL/YA

This short-lived gardening magazine for children is still useful for its short, illustrated articles, jokes, crafts, puzzles, and recipes on all aspects of gardening.

Jordan, Helene J. 1960. How a seed grows. New York: Crowell. 35 p. Illustrated. PS/EL

Cartoon-like drawings describe seed growth and show a child planting seeds, caring for them, and observing their development. Good introduction to gardening for the very young.

Junior bulletin. No.1 (1969)- v.4 (i.e. v.3), no.1 (Dec. 1971). New York: New York Botanical Garden. Illustrated. EL/YA

Another no-longer-published gardening magazine for children featuring articles, puzzles, quizzes, and other material dealing with a broad range of garden-related topics.

Kains, Maurice G. 1941. Gardening for young people. New York: Greenberg. viii, 280 p. Illustrated. YA

Good, basic advice is designed to make gardening "fun and interesting." Experiments/questions for children to solve teach them about planning and preparing beds, digging, plant behavior, companion planting, succession, composting, etc. Originally published in 1938 under the title: Adventures in gardening for boys and girls.

Kilpatrick, Van Evrie. 1940. The school garden: a laboratory of nature; also a brief history of the School Garden Association of New York. New York: School Garden Association of New York. 134 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Although published rather late in the school garden movement, this book contains the original philosophy of gardening as a way to study nature, to augment academic curricula and to shape the child's character. The gardening advice is still useful.

Kinney, Richard R. 1955. A guide to gardening with young people. New York: Prentice-Hall. 210 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This thorough, in-depth guide for beginning gardeners of any age aims to instill good attitudes and a desire to do the best job possible. Includes mulching, composting, soap sprays and covers peripheral activities such as garden shows, experiments and conservation. Provides advice for adults working with children; useful for group leaders.

Kirkus, Virginia. 1976. Gardening. New York: Watts. 63 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Useful, basic, but at times oversimplified information. Useful section on tools. First published in 1956 under the title: The first book of gardening.

Koehler, Cynthia I. 1969. Indoor and outdoor gardening. New York: Grosset. 64 p. Illustrated. EL

Numerous good ideas for growing indoor and outdoor plants; sprightly and easy-to-follow with one or two pages per plant. The projects are appealing and easy (wigwam of peas, forcing branches, potatoes). Graphically drab.

Kramer, Jack. 1978. Plant hobbies; a beginner's book of gardening projects, principles, and pleasures. New York: Collins-World. 77 p. Illustrated. YA

Simple craft and growing ideas, not particularly original, and sometimes downright silly (a plant hospital that is unlikely to cure much). The wary can glean some useful ideas here.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1978. Plant sculptures, making miniature indoor topiaries. New York: Morrow. 63 p. Illustrated. EL

Basic information and instructions for making ten specific shapes of topiary with potted plants; how to make one's own designs, and care of the plants.

Lacerte, Susan. [1985] Living with plants. New York: Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 11 p. EL

Basic information on the usefulness of plants, how to help them grow, use of planters. Aimed at urban children.

Lavine, Sigmund A. 1977. A beginner's book of vegetable gardening. New York: Dodd, Mead. 128 p. Illustrated. YA

Clear, understandable, detailed discussion of gardening from planning to harvesting a vegetable garden. Includes tools, cold frames, hot beds, container gardening; encourages the reader to try something new. Organic pest control methods are discussed.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1976. Wonders of herbs. New York: Dodd, Mead. 64 p. Illustrated. YA

A thorough treatment of herbs including history and cultivation. Eight individual herbs are discussed.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1977. Wonders of terrariums. New York: Dodd, Mead. 96 p. Illustrated. YA

A thorough treatment of the subject including historical material, how a terrarium works, containers, soils, selections of plants, maintenance and animals in terrariums. Useful for a beginner of any age.



Lerner, Carol. 1982. A Biblical garden. Translations from the Hebrew by Ralph Lerner. New York: Morrow. 46 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Introduces twenty Old Testament plants, mostly agricultural and familiar today. Includes name in English, Hebrew and Latin, a Biblical verse mentioning the plant, brief description, its significance in Biblical times and a full page drawing of it (ten are in color). Brings life and reality to an unfamiliar time and people. Informative, attractive and sensitively done.

Lerner, Sharon. 1967. I picked a flower. Minneapolis: Lerner Pub. Co. 31 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Twelve familiar garden flowers are described in verses beginning "I picked a ..." and containing a variety of factual information, including some on culture. Each is illustrated with a full page painting by the author.

McDonald, Lucile S. 1971. Garden sass; the story of vegetables. New York: T. Nelson. 192 p. Illustrated. YA

This book contains historical facts as well as lore about most of our common vegetables. Anthropological generalities and brief historical comments on plant breeding are included. Enjoyable reading for anyone interested in vegetables. No cultural information.

McKenny, Margaret and Edith Johnston. 1940. Book of garden flowers. New York: Macmillan. [80] p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Text, complemented by attractive color lithographs on facing pages, briefly discusses the origin and lore of bulbs, annuals, and perennials. Arranged by season of bloom. Large type.

McPhee Gribble Publishers. 1976. Gardening: how to grow things. [n.p.]: Penguin Books Australia. [31] p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Good, basic information for the novice gardener, with attractive color and black and white drawings, suitable for North American gardeners. Includes sections on growing mushrooms, potatoes, and water-gardens, as well as the more conventional children's crops. Pesticides are not used.

McTrusty, Ron. 1975. Dandelion year. New York: Harvey House.  
[25] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

Simple drawings show the life cycle of the dandelion through the seasons. No text.

Mandry, Kathy and Joe Toto. 1974. How to grow a jelly glass farm. New York: Pantheon Books. [29] p. Illustrated. EL

No particular sensitivity or horticultural awareness, but bold pictures and simple directions for growing such things as carrot and pineapple tops, grass in an old sneaker, seeds from a pine cone.

Masters, Robert V. 1949. Child's garden of flowers. New York: Greenberg. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Sound advice on planning and planting accompanied by an assortment of seed packets.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1949. Child's garden of vegetables. New York: Greenberg. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Thorough treatment of vegetable growing accompanied by an assortment of seed packets.

Millard, Adele. 1975. Plants for kids to grow indoors. New York: Sterling. 124 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

A very attractive and useful book including a broad range of indoor growing advice from the very simple carrot-top to potted plants, window boxes, terrariums, and dish gardens. Easy to follow.

Mintz, Lorelie M. 1980. How to grow fruits and berries. New York: J. Messner. 96 p. Illustrated. YA

Fine pen and ink drawings by the author illustrate this enthusiastic and informative book. Mintz emphasizes the great numbers of fruits one can grow and the variety of situations they can be grown in so that "these summertime visitors become long-time, full-time, friends." Most common fruits and berries for cold and warm climates are discussed individually. Useful for beginning fruit culturists of all ages.

- \_\_\_\_\_. 1976. *Vegetables in patches and pots; a child's guide to organic vegetable gardening*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 115 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Here Mintz explains how to have a "farm" in small plots of urban land and in containers. Thorough, basic advice is complemented by the author's paintings. There is an alphabetical guide to specific vegetables, artichoke to watermelon.

- Murphy, Louise. 1980. *My garden; a journal for gardening around the year*. New York: Scribner. 160 p. Illustrated. EL

Weekly entries from January through October contain plant lore, crafts, legends, simple experiments, suggestions for activities and practical advice. Simple, effective, black and white drawings and snippets of verse add to the effect. Despite some errors and omissions, this is a useful book, offering pleasant reading that may pique youngsters' interest.

- Musselman, Virginia W. 1972. *Learning about nature through indoor gardening*. Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole. 126 p. Illustrated. YA

There is a great deal of cultural information here covering virtually all indoor plants, even herbs, but not succulents.

- Nelson, Alix. 1975. *Raggedy Ann and Andy's green thumb book; an adventure in growing things indoors and out*. Indianapolis: Bobbs, Merrill. 120 p. Illustrated. EL

Charmingly illustrated with pictures from earlier editions of *Raggedy Ann and Andy* books, this story book is in fact a manual through which youngsters will learn much about gardening. The emphasis is on bulbs, although vegetables and starting plants indoors are also included.

- Oechsli, Helen and Kelly Oechsli. 1985. *In my garden: a child's gardening book*. New York: Macmillan. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Bright illustrations with touches of humor and clear text make this an appealing book. The advice is simple but accurate. Some common vegetables are treated individually and there is a delightful two-page spread showing garden friends, many of whom are perched on a scarecrow.

Orchards in all seasons. 1942. Compiled by workers of the writers' program of the Works Projects Administration in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Chicago: A. Whitman. 44 p. Illustrated. EL

This is a basic introduction to fruit growing with general information on physiology, growing habits, pruning, grafting, culture and harvest. Not a manual for the serious orchardist, the book will give a child an awareness of how fruit is produced.

Parker, Alice. 1977. Terrariums. New York: Watts. 47 p. Illustrated. EL

Simple instructions, elementary vocabulary and clear graphics characterize this book of basic terrarium how-to. Its chief value is the fact that it is understandable by very young children, but some of the advice is suspect, i.e. Norfolk Island Pine is unsuitable for terrariums, rubber gloves afford little protection against cactus spines, and desert terraria need far less water than is recommended.

Parker, Bertha M. 1948. The garden and its friends. Evanston, IL: Row, Peterson. 35 p. Illustrated. EL

Two children learn from their mistakes and become successful outdoor gardeners, knowledgeable about vegetables and flowers and about their wild garden friends.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1944. Garden indoors. Evanston, IL: Row, Peterson. 36 p. Illustrated. YA

The children featured in the preceding book miss their garden when summer ends, so Mother suggests that they garden indoors. Many aspects of indoor gardening are presented in this attractive house plant book for children.

Paul, Aileen. 1972. Kids gardening; a first indoor gardening book. Garden City: Doubleday. 96 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This is a thorough, basic treatment of indoor gardening for young people, clearly presented in recipe format.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1978. Kids outdoor gardening. Garden City:  
Doubleday. 80 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

A companion to the previous book, this deals with all aspects of outdoor gardening from planning and planting to harvesting and planning for next year. Organic techniques are presented along with a variety of appealing projects such as a playhouse of gourd vines.

Petrich, Patricia and Rosemary Dalton. 1974. The kids garden book. Concord, CA: Nitty Gritty Productions. 178 p. Illus. EL/YA

This basic how-to-garden manual for children covers indoor and outdoor vegetable and flower gardening. There are numerous interesting ideas and projects, as well as delightful illustrations by children.

Raskin, Edith. 1968. The fantastic cactus; indoors and in nature. New York: Lothrop. 112 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This treatment of succulents discusses about thirty different plants and includes a black and white photograph of each.

Rau, Margaret. 1973. Jimmy of Cherry Valley. New York: Messner. 64 p. Illustrated. EL

This is the true story of a boy who becomes a successful organic cherry orchardist, giving a fair view of the work involved and the rewards to be had, as well as cultural information to guide other young cherry growers.

Riedman, Sarah R. 1979. Gardening without soil. New York: Watts. 64 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Hydroponics is thoroughly discussed in this book, from history to techniques, including a bibliography and list of suppliers. It is useful for the novice of any age.

Ring, Elizabeth. 1984. Tiger lilies and other beastly plants. New York: Walker. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Twelve garden plants that have animal connotations are explored in this attractive, factually accurate book. Each plant has a page of text and, facing, a full page painting of the flower and its animal. Skunk cabbage, tiger lily, elephant ear, mouse ear, foxglove, and others are included.

Rockwell, Harlow. 1974. The compost heap. Garden City:  
Doubleday. 21 p. Illustrated. EL

A father and son build a compost pile, add garden and kitchen waste, and turn it. Seeds sprout and worms appear in it. Eventually everything rots and the compost is put on the garden. Simple, colored drawings and brief text make this suitable for the very young.

Schnatz, Grace. 1984. A child's introduction to a garden. Lodi, NJ:  
G. Schnatz. 33 p. Illustrated. EL

This book is a nice idea: simple text illustrated with color photos. And much of the feel of changing seasons, developing flowers, and the warmth and pleasure of a flower garden does come through despite the lack of first-rate photographs, the misspelling of Rhododendron, and the use of some singular names where plural would be correct.

Selsam, Millicent E. 1971. The carrot and other root vegetables.  
New York: Morrow. 48 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Selsam explains the structure and life cycle of some familiar root vegetables including carrots, radishes, beets, and sweet potatoes. Botanical information that will increase a young gardener's awareness of what he is growing is also included.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1960. How to grow house plants. New York:  
Morrow. 96 p. Illustrated. YA

This basic house plant manual provides the knowledge needed for successful growing, including propagation and shaping. Pen and ink drawings provide graphic support for the text.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1970. The tomato and other fruit vegetables. New  
York: Morrow. 47 p. Illustrated. EL

A useful adjunct to other gardening books, this one shows, in black and white and color photographs, the development of tomatoes from seeds and goes on to show the same process in other vegetables that contain seeds.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1972. Vegetables from stems and leaves. New York: Morrow. 47 p. Illustrated. EL

Here the author describes the cultivation and growth of twelve common vegetables whose leaves (lettuce, spinach) or stems (asparagus, celery) we eat.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Jerome Wexler. 1980. Eat the fruit, plant the seed. New York: Morrow. 48 p. Illustrated. EL

Any child can garden by planting seeds from grocery store fruits. This book, with its simple text and large, clear photographs, shows how. It includes avocado, papaya, citrus fruits, mango, pomegranate, and kiwi.

Sholinsky, Jane. 1974. Growing plants from fruits and vegetables. New York: Scholastic. 24 p. Illustrated. EL

Simple instructions for growing plants indoors from produce commonly found in the kitchen. Included are potatoes, carrot tops, onions, pumpkin seeds and others plus ideas for a window garden using these plants and ideas for simple experiments.

Stevenson, Peter and Mike Stevenson. 1976. Farming in boxes: one way to get started growing. New York: Scribner's. 64 p. Illustrated. EL

Black and white photographs of city kids at work building raised beds, a small "barn," and a compost bin highlight this story of the creation of a neighborhood garden. Instructions for the building projects and cultural information for the vegetables and flowers grown are included.

Sullivan, George. 1969. Plants to grow indoors. Chicago: Follett. 30 p. Illustrated. EL

There is more science than gardening here, although basic information on soils, containers, and indoor growing is provided.

Surcouf, Lorraine. 1975. Growing a green thumb; home gardening for children. Woodbury, NY: Barron. 80 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This is a good introduction to gardening, sprightly and well written, with clear drawings, a page or two to a topic. It covers much of outdoor vegetable gardening with such unusual additions as a toad house, birds in the garden, compost pits and checklists of seasonal activities; all measurements are metric.

Svatos, Ladislav. 1976. Dandelion. Garden City: Doubleday. [25] p. Illustrated. EL

Excellent, graphic pictures of dandelions, so attractive to children, highlight this book about the flower known to even the youngest gardener. The principles of germination, growth, and seed production shown here apply also to garden plants.

Sweningson, Sally. 1975. Indoor gardening. Minneapolis: Lerner Pub. Co. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

This attractive, basic manual for young gardeners includes basic information on plant life, plants to grow indoors and their culture, dish gardens, terraria and simple propagation.

Swenson, Allan A. 1977. Big fun to grow book. New York: David McKay. ix, 170 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Swenson provides basic gardening advice with information on flowers and vegetables, interesting projects and contests such as those sponsored by the National Junior Horticultural Association. There are numerous projects, simple experiments, crafts, new ideas, history, and more, all designed to pique a child's interest.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1976. My own herb garden. Emmaus, PA: Rodale. 68 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Herb gardening, indoors and out, is treated here in a thorough, attractive and readable way. Ten individual herbs are discussed, including identification, culture, uses and storage. This may be the best herb book for youngsters.

Taber, Gladys. 1969. Flower arranging; a book to begin on. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. 46 p. Illustrated. EL

This is a very attractive book on a subject seldom treated for children, including imaginative but simple ideas and touching on design and traditional flower arranging equipment.

Vasiliu, Mircea. 1969. One day in the garden. New York: John Day. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

A garden is a busy place and this picture/story book gives a good idea of the activity that humans often overlook.



Vogel, A. 1983. The big book for growing gardeners. Munich: Copenruth Verlag. 30 p. Illustrated. EL

In this amusing book, a hedgehog acts as a guide, reappearing here and there throughout, sleeping among the forget-me-nots, climbing a sunflower, showering pink and naked with a loofah. Sharp, bright illustrations complement much useful advice which is simply presented. A wide variety of edible and ornamental plants is treated in a very engaging manner.

Walsh, Anne Batterberry. 1976. A gardening book, indoors and outdoors. New York: Atheneum. 100 p. Illustrated. EL

Numerous simple indoor and outdoor growing projects are included, from kitchen scraps, sprouts, cuttings, terrariums and cacti to salad baskets and small kitchen and herb gardens. Nothing much out of the ordinary is included.

Wanhala, Julie. 1978. You can grow tomatoes. Chicago: Children's Press. 48 p. Illustrated. EL

Bright paintings illustrate this treatment of tomato culture from starting seeds to eating the harvest. This is an attractive book about a popular and easily grown crop. In the pursuit of simplification some topics are shortchanged, such as thinning of seedlings.

Waters, Marjorie. 1988. The Victory Garden kid's book; a beginner's guide to growing vegetables, fruits and flowers. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. ix, 148 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This is the best kid's gardening book to appear in a long time. It is filled with good advice, produced in large print and includes exceptional illustrations, both clear line drawings and numerous color photographs, of young gardeners at work. It is bright, lively, informative and fun. The approach is organic, and the focus mainly vegetables, although some flowers are included.

Watson, Adrien A. 1962. My garden grows. New York: Viking. 31 p. Illustrated. EL

A child who has a garden tells what he does, what happens, and seasonal changes he observes. Delicate drawings are spoiled by ugly coloring, largely green and orange.

Webber, Irma. E. 1953. Up above and down below. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley. [31] p. Illustrated. EL

Simple line drawings, flat colors and text combine to show graphically the above and below-ground parts of plants and the animals (also above and below ground) who eat them. Available in a 1985 reprint.

Wells, Luanna M. 1960. The children's garden. London: Thomas Nelson. 134 p. Illustrated. YA

This is a thorough text for the novice, providing basic information on soils, plants, tools and seasonal chores, as well as specific vegetables, flowers and indoor plants.

Wickers, David and John Tuey. 1972. How to make things grow. London: Studio Vista; New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold. 68 p. Illustrated. EL

A series of simple experiments teaching some basic principles of plant life is followed by indoor and outdoor growing projects. Much useful information is included, but the format is dull and the treatment of pests and diseases superficial.

Yerian, Cameron and Margaret Yerian. 1975. Outdoor gardens. Chicago: Children's Press. 45 p. Illustrated. EL

Bright, humorous illustrations and sprightly text present the varied aspects of outdoor vegetable and flower gardening, including attracting birds and cutting flowers. Good advice is presented simply with many clever ideas youngsters can easily carry out. Chemicals are not used.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1975. Weird gardens. Chicago: Children's Press. 45 p. Illustrated. EL

Simple projects and experiments using seeds and plants to illustrate basic facts of plant behavior make this a useful adjunct to gardening manuals.

Young, Paul R. 1944. Advanced garden-graphs; practical instructions in gardening. Darien, CT: Educational Pub. Corp. 48 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

A school textbook and sequel to the book listed below, this manual deals with such topics as economic plants, soils, fertilizers, lawns and pest control.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1944. Elementary garden-graphs; a course in practical gardening for beginners. Darien, CT: Educational Pub. Corp. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Primarily designed for school use, this book consists of eight lessons, from starting seeds indoors, using a garden plan, and preparing soil to pruning, harvesting and exhibiting. Accompanied by a teacher's manual.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1953. Elementary lessons in gardening. Columbus, OH: National Gardening Institute. 104 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Similar to Young's other books, this is not graphically interesting, but provides good information in usable format. The usual basic information is included, along with forcing bulbs, Christmas table pieces and window boxes plus problems for classroom discussion.

Zucker, Isabel. 1969. Four seasons of fun for youngsters using seeds and flowers, gourds and pumpkins. Birmingham, MI: National Garden Bureau. [69] p. Illustrated. EL

Included are 34 unusual projects using plant materials such as a gourd dollhouse, pansy pie, pheasant feeder and wind bells.

## 1940-1987 FICTION

And so my garden grows. 1969. Illustrated by Peter Spier. Garden City: Doubleday. [44] p. Illustrated. EL

Nursery rhymes and riddles plus noted illustrator Spier's drawings of children and nineteenth century italianate gardens combine to create an amusing book with glimpses of gardens and gardening.

Baldwin, Anne Norris. 1973. Sunflowers for Tina. New York: Scholastic. [45] p. Illustrated. EL

A city child who desperately wants a garden finds sunflowers growing in an empty lot. They inspire her to find a way to make her silent grandmother laugh and to become something of a gardener herself.

Balion, Lorna. 1985. Garden for a groundhog. Nashville: Abingdon. [32] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

This is one of the most delightful garden theme stories for the very young, presenting a sympathetic view of small-scale farming, the gustatory tastes of groundhogs (in this case a lovable and amusing character), and the difficulties of thwarting them. It is a tolerant gardener indeed who can approach a problem groundhog as the people in this book do, and it is a valuable lesson to be learned.

Barker, Cicely Mary. 1984. Flower fairies of the garden; a fold-out picture book. London: Blackie. Folded book [17] p. Illus. EL

One of several similar titles, this book contains a poem and painting of each of several common flowers attempting to present the essence of each.

Beary, Erick. 1947. The little farm in the big city. New York: Viking. [35] p. Illustrated. EL

A small boy's attempts to farm in the midst of a big city result in successful crops and better neighborliness.

Berkey, Helen L. 1967. *Aunty Pinau's Banyan tree*. Rutland, VT: Tuttle. 61 p. Illustrated. EL

A carefully watered and tended seedling becomes an important presence in the life of a Hawaiian island and teaches about the potential hidden in a small plant, the power of a gardener's care and the worth of a living tree.

Bjork, Christina. 1987. *Linnea in Monet's garden*. New York: Farrar, 52 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This unusual and attractive book is about Monet, art, travel and, to a lesser extent, gardening. Young gardeners who love flowers and have visited an art museum or two will find their horizons broadened by this story.

Blaine, Gertrude. 1953. *Flower box surprise*. New York: Messner. 62 p. Illustrated. EL

A child's plant, the survivor of the many vicissitudes of urban window box life, wins a prize and turns out to be something useful, much to the children's amusement.

Bodecker, N.M. 1983. *Carrot holes and frisbee trees*. New York: Atheneum. [40] p. Illustrated. EL

This fantasy is about gigantic carrots and how they change the lives of two gardeners who just want a simple, ordinary garden.

Bond, Michael. 1973. *Paddington's garden*. New York: Random House. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Paddington, Jonathan and Judy are each given a garden plot of his or her own with a prize awaiting the best creation. The story shows the work and thought a garden requires, the beauty that can result and the added dimension a garden brings to life.

Bosse, Malcolm. 1979. *The 79 squares*. New York: Crowell. 185 p. YA

A chance encounter with an old man in a garden changes a boy's life. Through the man and garden, Eric learns to observe, to feel and to care. The garden serves as his means of discovering the world, himself, other people and the value of life.

Boston, L.M. 1965. The castle of yew. New York: Harcourt. 57 p. Illustrated. EL

An old topiary garden is the setting of a fanciful story about two boys who imagine themselves knights in a castle. Captures the mystery and oddness of topiary.

Bramblett, Ella, Compiler. 1968. Shoots of green; poems for young gardeners. New York: Crowell. 117 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This seasonally arranged collection is a good source of poetry on garden themes. It is valuable, as well as pleasurable, reading for children and as source material for adults working with children.

Brock, Emma L. 1947. The garden patch. In Till potatoes grow on trees. New York: Knopf. pp. 102-115. EL

Cecily finds a way to thwart a hungry woodchuck that is more fancy than fact. The only horticultural lesson here is the truth that woodchucks like to eat what people grow.

Brown, Margaret Wise and Edith Thacher Hurd. 1951. Two little gardeners. New York: Simon & Schuster. [27] p. Illus. PS/EL

Bright, charming pictures highlight a simple text that describes two children's gardening efforts from snow melt to putting by for the next winter.

Bulla, Clyde R. 1968. Mika's apple tree; a story of Finland. New York: Crowell. 40 p. Illustrated. EL

A small boy plants a seed and, as he helps it grow, it helps him decide what he will be when he grows up.

\_\_\_\_\_. The poppy seeds. New York: Crowell. 33 p. Illustrated. EL

This story about a Mexican boy who plants poppy seeds in a dry valley where they are unlikely to grow shows that optimism, love and flowers can change our lives for the better. Bold, simple illustrations enhance the text.

Carle, Eric. 1987. The tiny seed. Natick, MA: Picture Studio Book.  
[32] p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

This appealing picture book illustrated with bright collages tells the story of a tiny seed that survives many vicissitudes to grow into a plant that flowers and produces many seeds of its own.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1970. The very hungry caterpillar. Cleveland: Collins-World. [24] p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

Wonderful collages illustrate the story of a tiny caterpillar with an enormous appetite who metamorphoses into a beautiful butterfly. This story helps children understand the caterpillars they find in the garden by presenting them as funny, friendly, hungry and normal creatures.

Carter, Anne. 1987. Bella's secret garden. New York: Crown.  
[26] p. Illustrated. EL

Bella is a rabbit in whose territory new homes are built. She makes herself at home nearby, enjoying raids in gardens near the new houses until she is caught. Large scale paintings bring to life this all-too-familiar denizen of our vegetable patches in a sympathetic story.

Chew, Ruth. 1979. The witch's garden. New York: Hastings House.  
112 p. Illustrated. EL

Josh and Susan have strange, otherworldly adventures in a friendly witch's garden. During a period when they become miniature, they learn what a garden's inhabitants are like from an insect's perspective as well as learn that a weed is beautiful.

Clark, Ann Nolan. 1963. Tia Maria's garden. New York: Viking.  
47 p. Illustrated. BR/EL

Tia Maria's garden is the desert, natural and unfenced. The story is narrated by a child, who walks with Tia Maria in this garden and learns about its plants and animals. Although the illustrations are not outstanding, the appreciation of natural landscapes as "wild" gardens and, in particular, the treatment of a desert landscape as such a garden, is an important and unusual concept in a children's book.

Collier, Ethel. 1963. Who goes there in my garden? New York: Young Scott Books. [48] p. Illustrated. EL

This is the story of a boy planting his garden, the creatures and volunteer plants he finds there, and the friendly neighbor who gives him advice.

Cooney, Barbara. 1982. Miss Rumphius. New York: Viking. [29] p. Illustrated. EL

A delight for young and old, this is an unusually beautiful, multifaceted story accompanied by sensitive, detailed paintings. Miss Rumphius leads an interesting life, culminating in her planting of lupines that spread, take on a life of their own, and become the fulfillment of a childhood promise to "make the world more beautiful."

Craft, Ruth. 1979. Carrie Hepple's garden. New York: Atheneum. [27] p. Illustrated. EL

Evocative paintings on green paper are the highlight of this tale of children who venture into a forbidden garden and find it a good and magical place.

Cristini, Ermanno and Luigi Puricelli. 1981. In my garden. London: Neugebauer Press; Boston: distributed by Alphabet Press. [28] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

A delight for all ages, this wordless book of exceptional graphic quality was created by two artists and presents a ground level view of the goings on among garden plants and weeds.

Daly, Kathleen. 1969. Ladybug, ladybug. New York: American Heritage Press. [27] p. Pictures by Susan Carleton Smith. PS/BR/EL

Small people seem to be attracted to tiny things. The familiar ladybug of the garden is always a delight, as is this gem of a book, a retelling of the "Ladybug, ladybug, fly away home" rhyme with incomparable watercolor paintings by noted artist Smith. Children will notice the finest details in the clever, sensitive illustrations. All living things or parts thereof are identified in the back of the book.



De Jong, Meindert. 1962. Nobody plays with a cabbage. New York: Harper. 52 p. Illustrated. EL

A boy's vegetable garden consists of only one cabbage but, a true and dedicated gardener nevertheless, he produces the most beautiful cabbage his mother has ever seen.

Denzer, Ann W. 1961. Tony's flower. New York: Vanguard. [29] p. Illustrated. EL

A small, lonely boy's flower becomes both a way of beautifying a city park and a bridge to other children who become his friends.

Disch, Thomas M. 1986. The tale of Dan de Lion. Minneapolis: Coffee House Press. [28] p. Illustrated. EL/YA

This verse story presents the dandelion's point of view and accurately, if humorously, describes how this ubiquitous flower grows, overcoming all attempts to extirpate it.

Eager, Edward. 1958. Time garden. New York: Harcourt. 188 p. Illustrated. EL

Few gardeners would deny that there is magic in old gardens or that the scents of the numerous varieties of thyme all cast their own spells. The adventures of four children during a magical summer are deeply rooted in a special garden and tied to that special herb.

Farjeon, Eleanor. 1965. Mr. Garden. New York: Walck. 39 p. Illustrated. EL

A mysterious little man whom the children call Mr. Garden rehabilitates their weedy yard. He is an instinctive gardener, in touch with nature. The story is appealing and imaginative with sensitive watercolor paintings and gives a good feeling for gardening as being in touch with the earth, plants and seasons.

Farley, Carol. 1976. The garden is doing fine. New York: Atheneum. 185 p. Illustrated. YA

A dying man's garden becomes a symbol of continuance and renewal for his daughter, giving her the strength to accept his imminent death. This is a wonderfully sensitive and insightful book for teenagers.

Farwell, Edith. 1966. The fairy's garden. [Lake Forest, IL: Fairy's Garden] 28 p. Illustrated. EL

The fairy tells Robbie the stories of many garden inhabitants including the honey bee, wren and owl and tells about the changing seasons. These are imaginative tales for younger readers.

Freschet, Berniece. 1985. Owl in the garden. New York: Lothrop. [30] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

Large scale, colorful paintings illustrate this story of the goings on among some common garden bird and animal residents. Children may see some of these and other creatures about the garden and will appreciate them better through this book.

Fugikawa, Gyo. 1978. Let's grow a garden. New York: Grosset. [14] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Brightly colored illustrations on boards show small children working in their vegetable garden; great fun for toddlers and the earliest readers.

Greenberg, David. 1983. Slugs. Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press-Little, Brown. 31 p. Illustrated. EL

This thoroughly "offensive" book will delight lots of kids. Clever verses and amusing pictures suggest uses for and activities of slugs ranging from dangerous ("stuff 'em up your nose") to cruel ("shoot one from a slingshot") to frightening ("they'll chop you into pancakes, and turn you inside out"). None of it is particularly enlightening about slugs and young children are likely to take the suggestions literally.

Hader, Berta and Elmer Hader. 1960. Mister Billy's garden. New York: Macmillan. 36 p. Illustrated. EL

Mister Billy wants a gun to rid his garden of interlopers, a rabbit and a flock of quail but, by the time he gets one, the pests have become his friends and he cannot shoot them. Instead, next year's garden will be big enough for all. This is a nice lesson in tolerance toward the creatures who raid our gardens.

Harrison, Sarah and Mike Wilks. 1980. In Granny's garden. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. [32] p. Illustrated. EL

An imaginative boy finds a friendly brontosaurus in Granny's unkempt garden. In this fanciful tale, most noteworthy for its colorful, detailed illustrations, the world of man and beast, historic and prehistoric, merge.

Harwood, Pearl A. 1964. Mr. Bumba plants a garden. Minneapolis: Lerner. [28 ] p. Illustrated. EL

When Mr. Bumba's two young neighbors tell him he should play, he decides to play with a garden and they help him. The result is fun for all three and a successful garden of vegetables and flowers.

Hayes, Sheila. 1982. Speaking of snapdragons. New York: Dutton. [151] p. Illustrated. YA

An elderly man and his garden change a young girl's life. She gains a green thumb, considerable self knowledge, courage, a better relationship with her mother and the ability to tell who her real friends are.

Haywood, Carolyn. 1980. Eddie's green thumb. New York: Pocket Books. 149 p. Illustrated. Reprint of the 1964 ed. EL

This is a lively, good-natured story of children whose successful vegetable gardens culminate in a garden show. Young readers will want to follow in the footsteps of Eddie and his friends.

Hogan, Inez. 1944. Nappy planted a garden. New York: Dutton. [46] p. Illustrated. EL

Vegetable growing information is mixed with entertainment in this story of a small boy's garden. The wartime influence is apparent, but youngsters will enjoy the story nevertheless.

Itse, Elizabeth M. 1972. Hey, bug! and other poems about little things. New York: American Heritage Press. 60 p. Illustrated by Susan Carleton Smith. EL

Smith's paintings are irresistible. Her depictions of garden inhabitants bear close scrutiny and the poems selected are a good literary introduction as well as a window on the natural world for young children.

Kilroy, Sally. 1986. Grandpa's garden. New York: Viking Kestrel.  
[15] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Simple text and bright paintings highlight this introduction to the joys and enjoyments found in a garden by two small children.

Krasilovsky, Phyllis. 1982. The first tulips in Holland. Garden City:  
Doubleday. [28] p. Illustrated. EL

Beautiful paintings illustrate this fictionalized account of how tulips might have arrived in Holland and influenced those who first saw them. An "Afterword" gives a brief factual history of the tulip.

Krauss, Ruth. 1945. The carrot seed. New York: Harper. [23] p.  
Illustrated. PS/BR

This simplest of gardening stories shows the very young that hope and persistence are eventually rewarded.

Krauze, Andrzej. 1985. Reggie rabbit plants a garden. New York:  
Macmillan. [16] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Although he must be one of the homeliest rabbits to grace the pages of a children's book, Reggie is a successful gardener who works hard and then enjoys relaxing in his garden. This simple, humorous approach for the youngest readers accurately portrays basic gardening activities.

Lattimore, Eleanor F. 1961. The wonderful glass house. New York:  
Morrow. 125 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

For a boy who loves growing things, a neighbor's greenhouse is a magical place that leads him to further his interest in gardening. Along the way he learns about curiosity, pride and jealousy, as well as plants.

Le Tord, Bijou. 1984. Rabbit seeds. New York: Four Winds Press.  
32 p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Simple, delicate line drawings illustrate this story of a rabbit gardener who cares for his garden from soil preparation through harvest. He even puts away his tools, a fine role model for young horticulturists.

Livingston, Myra Cohn. 1984. Monkey puzzle and other poems. New York: Atheneum. 54 p. Illustrated. YA

Poems and black and white prints evoke the true nature of nearly thirty trees and help one to experience their individuality.

Lobel, Arnold and Anita Lobel. 1984. The rose in my garden. New York: Greenwillow Books. 40 p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

A well-known author's name and enticing, tapestry-like illustrations belie the horticulturally misleading text. Following the pattern of "This is the house that Jack built," the story tells of flowers, a cat chasing a mouse, and, no fewer than twelve times, mentions "the bee that sleeps on the rose in my garden," something no self-respecting bee will do. Such inanities abound: sunflowers rise above tulips in a bizarre melange of seasons, bluebells are said to have "petals like lace," etc.

McGee, Myra. 1977. Willie's garden. Emmaus, PA: Rodale. 47 p. Illustrated. EL

This is a happy story of a boy who loves to grow things and the way he has to expand his garden for all the good vegetables he wants to add. It is a simple story, but the essence of being bitten by the gardening bug is here.

Mann, Peggy. 1971. The street of the flower boxes. New York: Pocket Books. 71 p. Illustrated. Reprint of the 1966 ed. EL

A city boy who rips up neighbors' flowers becomes the guardian of the flower boxes himself and helps the entire street to become a showplace of flowers. He makes a success of more than gardening.

Margarita. 1977. Grampa Gomez' garden. San Diego: Margarita's Books for Brown Eyes. 18, 18 p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

Back-to-back English and Spanish versions of a simple story about a neighborhood's successful gardens feature very large print and child-like drawings, appealing to the very young.

Moncure, Jane B. 1975. The Bunny who knew all about plants. Elgin, IL: Child's World. [23] p. Illustrated. BR/EL

Bright paintings illustrate this story of an over-confident rabbit gardener who has little success in growing plants until he

realizes that he must understand the special needs of each plant.

Moore, Inga. 1984. *The vegetable thieves*. New York: Viking. [24] p. Illustrated. EL

Two rodent-people work so hard in their enormous vegetable garden that they have little time or energy left to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Thieves in the garden unexpectedly solve this problem, adding a new dimension to their lives as well.

Muntean, Michaela. 1984. *Alligator's garden*. New York: Dial. [19] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

As Alligator proceeds to plant a flower garden, the reader learns the basics of the process including patience, as well as the joy of eventual success. Bright, simple, full page illustrations enliven the text.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1982. *A garden for Miss Mouse*. New York: Parents Magazine Press. [35] p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

Miss Mouse's garden is so successful that she has to be rescued from it. Amusing text and paintings show the joys and difficulties of a garden that becomes too much to handle.

Newman, Winifred B. 1980. *The secret in the garden*. Wilmette, IL: Bahai Pub. Trust. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

The secret in the old woman's garden is in raising each plant according to its individual needs and loving each for itself. The message is both horticulturally and humanly apropos.

Newsome, Effie Lee. 1940. *Gladiola garden; poems of outdoors and indoors for second grade readers*. Washington, D.C.: The Associated Publishers. xv, 167 p. Illustrated. EL

Since many of the poems in this collection deal with garden subjects and others with nature, this is a good source of poetry on a broad range of horticultural subjects.

Norton, Andre. 1974. *Lavender-green magic*. New York: Crowell. 241 p. Illustrated. YA

This post-Vietnam tale of good and evil, magic and time travel, is centered on an ancient, overgrown herb garden. The age-old connection between herbs and witches is prominent.

Orgel, Doris. 1967. *Cindy's sad and happy tree*. New York: Knopf. [33] p. Illustrated. EL

Cindy and her family's garden are not the same when an old elm tree dies. Cindy chooses a "sad and happy" tree to plant in its place and learns something about trees, planting and life in the process.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1966. *Cindy's snowdrops*. New York: Knopf. [32] p. Illustrated. EL

Cindy plants seven snowdrops, awaits their blooms throughout the winter, and is finally rewarded in the spring. This is an accurate description of the life of a bulb garden, the patience and anticipation that go with it, and the promise of spring.

Partridge, Jenny. 1983. *Lop-ear*. New York: Holt. [24] p. Illustrated. BR/EL

Finely detailed drawings illustrate this story of a garden rabbit's attempts to keep caterpillars from destroying the cabbage he intends to enter in the local fair.

Paull, Grace. 1943. *A squash for the fair*. New York: Doubleday. [22] p. Illustrated. EL

A little girl's squash crop earns her a blue ribbon at the local fair in this happy story.

Pearce, Ann Phillipa. 1958. *Tom's midnight garden*. Philadelphia: Lippincott. 229 p. Illustrated. YA

Tricks of time lead a lonely boy into another era and a long gone garden where he finds the playmates he seeks. The garden is beautiful, mysterious and real and Tom's adventures in it seem entirely plausible.

Phipson, Joan. 1982. *The watcher in the garden*. New York: Atheneum. 203 p. YA

A garden becomes a place of refuge, a sanctuary of peace in her turbulent daily life, for a young girl, as well as the scene of conflict between her good and evil selves.

Pike, Norman. 1983. The peach tree. Owings Mills, MD: Stemmer House. 29 p. Illustrated. EL

This is a very attractive picture book about a family's peach tree, its attack by aphids, its rescue by ladybugs, and the lovely crop of peaches it produces.

Poulet, Virginia. 1973. Blue Bug's vegetable garden. Chicago: Children's Press. 31 p. Illustrated. PS

A simple book with bold, colorful illustrations, this will appeal to the youngest children, fostering an interest in both books and gardens.

Quinn, Vernon. 1943. Stories and legends of garden flowers. Philadelphia: Lippincott. x, 245 p. Illustrated. YA

The lore of fifty-five familiar garden flowers is related in this appealing book, which adds depth to one's knowledge of the plants one grows. Black and white wood-cuts make attractive illustrations.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1942. Vegetables in the garden and their legends. Philadelphia: Lippincott. x, 261 p. Illustrated. YA

This volume presents the lore of fifty vegetables and is illustrated similarly to Quinn's Stories and legends of garden flowers.

Rhoads, Dorothy. 1955. The vegetable tree; a Mayan tale. In Favorite stories old and new, selected by Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg. Rev. and enl. ed. Garden City: Doubleday. pp. 377-379. EL/YA

The origin of numerous fruits and vegetables is explained in this retold folk-tale.

Rylant, Cynthia. 1984. This year's garden. Scarsdale, NY: Bradbury Press. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Bright, colorful paintings and simple text lead the reader through the year in a farm garden. There is a sense of a rural family's closeness to the land and the importance of the garden in their lives.



Scheidt, Gerda M. 1986. *George's garden*. New York: North-South Books; distributed by Holt. Translated by Rosemary Lanning. [22] p. Illustrated. PS/EL

George lives in an enchanted land, shown in full color drawings; it is a natural garden and home to many plants and animals. When a daisy wants to move to a more elegant garden, George obliges, with unfortunate results. This is a charming, understated apologia for the less than perfectly tidy garden.

Sharpe, Sara. 1982. *Gardener George goes to town*. New York: Harper. [31] p. Illustrated. EL

George brightens a dull town through his gardening skills, leaving a permanent legacy before returning to the countryside. Lively, brilliantly colored illustrations lend an exotic air to an imaginary landscape.

Shirk, Jeannette C. 1940. *Mr. Baxter's dandelion garden*. New York: Dutton. 58, [2] p. Illustrated. EL

Mr. Baxter dreams of a wonderful flower garden but, despite the efforts of fifteen gardeners, he has nothing but a dandelion patch. A remarkable solution to the problem presents itself and the flowers bloom in profusion.

Sloan, Carolyn. 1983. *Skewer's garden*. London: Chatto. 144 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Gardening and flowers provide stability for a boy with a helter skelter home life who seldom attends school and has to little rely on.

Stemp, Robin. 1981. *Guy and the flowering plum tree*. New York: Atheneum. [30] p. Illustrated. EL

A boy who thinks he has swallowed a plum pit imagines himself as a plum tree with birds in its branches and small animals among its roots. Evocative paintings add to the effect of a child imagining what it is like to be a plant.

Tate, Joan. 1981. *Luke's garden and Gramp; two novels*. New York: Harper. 138 p. YA

In the first of these two novellas a small boy's only real accomplishment is his successful garden. Being different causes him difficulties, but he knows he has a gift of peace and

beauty. His death at the end seems unnecessary and inappropriate.

Taylor, Judy. 1984. *Sophie and Jack help out*. New York: Philomel. [24] p. Illustrated. PS/BR/EL

Two lovable young hippos plant a garden which is surprising in more than its success. Bright pictures contribute to the charm of a simple story which, in few words, conveys the essence of gardening.

Thayer, Jane. 1968. *Little Mr. Greenthumb*. New York: Morrow. [30] p. Illustrated. EL

A lazy elf who enjoys being in the garden learns that hard work and dedication are needed to keep a garden in good condition.

Thompson, Eleanor. 1963. *What shall I put in the hole that I dig?* Racine, WI: Whitman. [29] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Inanimate objects put in the hole will not grow, but the kernel of corn, covered gently, watered by rain and warmed by the sun surprises us with an ear of corn.

Tingle, Dolli. 1968. *The little apple tree*. Norwalk, CT: Gibson. [27] p. Illustrated. EL

A simple verse story and sprightly, colorful drawings take the reader through the seasons by focusing on the changes in an apple tree.

Tolstoi, Aleksei Nikolaevich. 1968. *The great big enormous turnip*. New York: Watts. [34] p. Illustrated. EL

Delightful illustrations in muted colors enhance this humorous folk tale about a turnip that followed instructions to grow big and sweet. This is a good introduction to a lesser known vegetable.

Tomalin, Ruth. 1985. *Little Nasty*. London: Faber. 78 p. Illustrated. EL/YA

An overgrown, wild garden becomes a place of refuge, renewal and discovery for a young girl tormented by cruel and spoiled playmates. There she learns to see the world and her own life in peaceable, happier terms and realizes that she is not nasty but nice.

Townsend, Jacob D. 1967. The five trials of the pansy bed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 58 p. Illustrated. EL

A city child determines to have a garden and her pansy bed survives the five disasters that assail it in this story of hope, persistence and love of growing things.

Trimby, Elisa. 1981. Mr. Plum's oasis. New York: Lothrop. [30] p. Illustrated. EL

Mr. Plum, famous English gardener, designs a garden in the desert for a sheik. Youngsters can glean from this book some idea of a garden designer's task, as well as sense the oasis that is in every garden. Attractive, finely detailed paintings illustrate the story.

Tripp, Paul. 1968. The little red flower. Garden City: Doubleday. [42] p. Illustrated. EL

The citizens of a dirty mining town are captivated by a newcomer's flower in a story that illustrates the latent affinity in us all for living things.

Udry, John M. 1969. Sunflower garden. Irvington-on-Hudson, NY: Harvey House. 37 p. Illustrated. EL

In this story, an Algonkian Indian girl's sunflower garden is a success because of her diligence and care. Through the garden she earns her father's respect and introduces a new crop to her village.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. 1967. Timothy's flower. New York: Random House. [44] p. Illustrated. EL

Living in a big city, Timothy has a hard time finding a suitable place to plant a flower given to him by a kindly park groundskeeper. Eventually, he learns where flowers can be grown and gains a new friend as well.

Wabbes, Marie. 1987. Little rabbit's garden. Boston: Atlantic Monthly Press. [17] p. Illustrated. PS

A delightful book for the youngest shows Little Rabbit doing what toddlers love to do in gardens – picking the harvest and eating half of it before it goes into the basket.

Wayne, Jennifer. 1976. *Sprout's window cleaner*. New York: McGraw. 89 p. Illustrated. EL

Despite many difficulties, a small boy wins a prize for a plant well grown. The plant is the focus of a lively story that realistically portrays a young gardener's efforts to gain success.

Westcott, Nadine B. 1981. *The giant vegetable garden*. Boston: Little, Brown. 32 p. Illustrated. EL

Comic details are scattered throughout full page illustrations of a town gone mad. Gardening, greed, success and what to do with excess garden bounty are woven into a humorous tale.

Williams, Helen, (Comp.). 1987. *In Abigail's garden*. New York: Dutton. [24] p. Illustrated. EL/YA

Delicate, detailed illustrations, reminiscent of Persian miniatures, grace the pages of this small anthology of poetry, taken from the works of major literary figures. This is a high quality book from literary, artistic and horticultural perspectives.

Wolcott, Patty. 1985. *Super Sam and the salad garden*. New York: Lippincott. [22] p. Illustrated. PS/BR

Good triumphs over evil in this simple story of city children attempting to have a garden. The text is simple, the print large and the illustrations colorful.

Wong, Herbert H. and Matthew F. Vessel. 1978. *My plant*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley. 31 p. Illustrated. EL

A child's desire for a plant of her own results in a search for seeds, trial and error plantings, loss of seedlings to the usual woes and finally a plant to call her own.

Worthington, Phoebe and Joan Worthington. 1983. *Teddy Bear gardener*. London: Warne. [14] p. PS/BR/EL

This is a charming story with illustrations of a day in the life of a gardener, albeit a teddy bear, and is a good introduction to gardening for the very young.

Zion, Gene. 1959. *The plant sitter*. New York: Harper. [28] p. Illustrated. EL

Tommy becomes a plant sitter for the summer, turning his parents' house into a jungle of greenery. After a frightening

dream about his charges taking over the house, he trims them and plants the cuttings. He returns healthy, well groomed plants to their owners and baby plants to the children.

## 1914-1939 NON-FICTION

Bates, Alfred. 1936. Gardener's first year. London; New York: Longmans. x, 246 p. Illustrated.

This excellent, thorough introduction to gardening will, as the author says, "... open for you one door into a world of growing things, a world that will provide you with untold pleasures should you choose to go through ..." This, and Bates' following books are useful for adults as well.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1937. Gardener's second year. New York: Longmans. ix, 278 p. Illustrated.

Perennials are treated in this volume, from planning to the culture of specific plants. Some products mentioned may no longer be available.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1941. Gardener's third year. See section 1940-1988, Non-Fiction.

Bianco, Margery. 1936. Green grows the garden. New York: Macmillan. 117 p. Illustrated.

Essays on gardening for young people are rare, but this is a fine example that makes enjoyable background reading for anyone with an interest in gardens.

Bowsfield, Colvin C. 1916. How boys and girls can earn money. Chicago: Forbes. 247 p.

Considerable space is devoted to horticultural pursuits in this fascinating array of projects intended to help youngsters of seventy years ago earn money. Flower growing, medicinal plants, vegetables, mushrooms, hedge trimming are discussed and vegetable and flower planting calendars included. Intriguing as a historical document, some of the advice is still useful today.

Chandler, Katherine. 1923. Stories of wild flowers children love; a science reader for the primary grades. Philadelphia: Blakistan's. xi, 141 p. Illustrated.

Despite the title, this book includes factual presentations on a number of garden flowers, tends to deprecate the true scientific approach, and does not include Latin names.

Cobb, Ernest. 1917. Garden steps; a manual for the amateur in vegetable gardening. Boston: Silver, Burdett. xi, 226 p. Illustrated.

Many children are pictured in the photographs illustrating this book, but the text will not be comprehensible to children as young as these. Thorough, basic treatment of vegetable gardening with much advice still valuable today. Outdated aspects such as varietal names, insistence on single row planting, the use of arsenate of lead are easily overcome.

Davis, Kary C. 1918. School and home gardening; a text book for young people, with plans, suggestions and helps for teachers, club leaders and organizers. Philadelphia: Lippincott. xvii, 353 p. Illustrated.

Didactic and packed with detailed information, this is one of many school garden books published during the first half of this century and aimed at developing the entire child through the use of horticulture. Though out of vogue now, some of the points made and much of the gardening advice is still valid.

Dubois, Gertrude and Frances Dubois. 1936. Peter and Penny plant a garden. Philadelphia: Lippincott. x, 210 p. Illustrated.

Thorough instruction in the basics of flower gardening is woven into this story of two youngsters who move to the country and gain a garden. It is an entertaining story with useful gardening advice and attractive, small, black and white illustrations.

Fisher, Dorothy Canfield. 1922. Gardening. In *What shall we do now?* New York: Stokes. New enl. ed. pp. 313-336.

This chapter in an activity book of an earlier generation includes general advice about gardening, mostly flowers.

Foster, Olive Hyde. 1917. Gardening for little girls. New York: Duffield. 144 p.

This no-nonsense approach to gardening assumes seriousness, diligence, and care on the part of the young gardener.

Fryer, Jane Eayre. 1916. *The Mary Frances garden book; or, adventures among the garden people.* Philadelphia: Winston. 378 p. Illustrated.

This is a complete gardening manual in story form with charming border designs. Mary Frances and her friends tend successful gardens, culminating in a grand party, in a story filled with factual information. It is a fascinating glimpse into childhood in the early twentieth century.

Greene, Dorothy W. and Rosetta C. Goldsmith. 1934. *The junior gardener.* New York: Vanguard. [64] p. Illustrated.

A hand lettered labor of love, this book presents the essentials to children who wish to garden. Basic advice as well as simple plans for vegetable and flower gardens are included. Cutting and arranging flowers, Japanese flower arrangement and wildflower gardens are all treated.

Gwynn, Joan. 1924. *Gardening for children.* London: Harrap. 158 p.

In not atypical British fashion, this book includes considerable factual material and assumes a certain seriousness and reading ability. The British viewpoint regarding horticultural advice limits its applicability, but it is an interesting book nevertheless.

Hall, Albert Neely. 1918. *Garden craft.* In *Carpentry & mechanics for boys; up-to-the-minute handicraft.* Boston: Lothrop. pp. 293-371. Illustrated.

Various projects, most fairly elaborate, for youngsters to build include hot beds, hot caps and plant shields, flower boxes, small accessories, a lawn roller and bird houses. The ideas are not without merit today.

Hall, Albert Neely and Dorothy Perkins. 1916. *Garden.* In *Handicraft for handy girls.* Boston: Lothrop. pp. 279-293. Illustrated.

Craft projects of varying difficulty are presented here, including bird houses, garden markers, hanging baskets, flower boxes and May baskets. It is of more historical than practical interest.

Henslow, Thomas G.W. 1927. *The young gardener.* London: Dean. 62 p. Illustrated.

A thorough treatise arranged by month, this includes both vegetables and flowers. British in viewpoint, it nevertheless



includes many useful ideas such as ways to trap harmful insects and suggestions for garden design.

Jenkins, Dorothy H. 1936. *The children make a garden*. Garden City: Doubleday. 70 p. Illustrated.

Young vegetable and flower growers are given basic advice. Not an outstanding work, or up-to-date, but acceptable for the basics.

Kains, M.G. 1937. *Adventures in gardening for boys and girls*. New York: Greenberg. viii, 280 p. Illustrated.

Later reprinted under the title *Gardening for young people*, this is a comprehensive treatise on outdoor gardening, including much scientific data.

King, Caroline B. 1930. *Rosemary makes a garden*. Philadelphia: Penn Pub. Co. 218 p. Illustrated.

The author and her "little neighbor," Rosemary, plan and plant a flower garden and impart considerable useful advice to the reader. She builds fireplaces and tends her lawn as well. Extensive lists of ornamentals for various situations are included.

Landers, Olive R. 1933. *Gardening*. In *The modern hand book for girls*. Garden City: Garden City Pub. Co. pp. 206-229. Illustrated.

Flower gardening is the main emphasis here, especially the pretty and picturesque. Also treated are indoor gardens and a few building projects.

Lucas, Jeanette May. 1939. *Where did your garden grow?* New York: Lippincott. 63 p. Illustrated.

A nice mix of history and gardening, this book explains the origins of some common garden plants. Arranged by continents and accompanied by color maps on which flowers are depicted, this is a very graphic way of illustrating concepts such as "native."

Miller, Louise Klein. 1914. Children's gardens for school and home; a manual of cooperative gardening. New York: Appleton. xiv, 235 p. Illustrated.

Interesting for the historical view it provides, this is similar to other school garden manuals which urge the use of gardening to shape the whole child.

Nortridge, Nellie A. 1933. Garden stories. [Chicago: Privately printed] R.R. Donnelly. vi, 118 p. Illustrated.

The characters are real children from the author's junior garden club presented in true stories meant to teach about various aspects of gardening. It includes poems about flowers and birds. Not overly pedantic, these stories would make acceptable bedtime reading for elementary age children.

Price, Harriet. 1936. The junior gardener. London: Dent. xii, 134 p.

Not very attractive, textbook-ish, but thorough, this book covers flowers, fruits, vegetables, indoor gardening and propagation.

Quackenbush, Alice T.A. 1925. All in a garden fair. New York: De La Mare Co. xvi, 96 p. Illustrated.

An exploration into the derivation and meaning of Latin and common names of garden flowers, this book may open the eyes of young gardeners to messages behind plant names.

Shaw, Ellen Eddy. 1916. Gardening and farming. Garden City: Doubleday. 376 p.

Presented in the form of a narrative about the activities of a group of boys and girls, this book describes numerous garden projects but is not a gardening manual per se. Sex role stereotypes are pronounced, with the boys growing vegetables and the girls flowers.

Smith, Mabel S.C. 1915. Ethel Morton's enterprise. Cleveland: Goldsmith. 249 p.

This entertaining story of a young teenager's activities includes elements of nature study, history, genealogy and horticulture. The youngsters' club takes up gardening in earnest, resulting in a more attractive town. From planning to planting to flower arranging the horticultural information is sound.

Stebbing, Maud Evelyn and Louey Chisholm. 1937. Gardening for children and beginners. London: Nelson. vii, 29 plates, 259 p. Illustrated.

Stebbing does not talk down to children, but attempts to impart common sense advice for youngsters with a genuine interest in gardening. Flowers and herbs are treated, but not vegetables.

Stout, A.B. 1922. Gardening; an elementary text treating of the science and art of vegetable growing. Yonkers-on-Hudson, NY: World. xv, 354 p. Illustrated.

Photographs of quaint children of a by-gone time illuminate this thorough, basic text on gardening.

Verrill, Alpheus H. 1914. Harper's book for young gardeners; how to make the best use of a little land. New York: Harper. xix, 389 p. Illustrated.

Thorough and detailed, this book is nearly as useful today as when first published. Its coverage is both broad and in-depth.

Wodell, Helen Page. 1928. Beginning to garden. New York: Macmillan. ix, 104 p. Illustrated.

Vegetables and flowers are treated in this volume that combines recommendations of compost piles with sexist assumptions and the use of kerosene emulsion as an insecticide. Clearly a book that would not be written today.

## 1914-1939 FICTION

Ewald, Carl. [1921] The old willow-tree and other stories. Translated by A. Teixeira de Mattos. New York: Stokes. 157 p. Illustrated.

Featured in these folk tales are a number of garden and wild plants and animals. Included in the tales are bits of information on gardening, botany, ecology and the plants' view of human activities. Adds a dimension to one's understanding of the life of plants.

Morgenstern, Elizabeth. 1933. The little gardeners. Retold by Louise F. Encking. Chicago: Whitman. [13] p. Illustrated.

Delightful paintings accompany this simple story of the creation of a new garden and the party that celebrates its success.

Newman, Isidora. 1926. Fairy flowers; nature legends of facts and fantasy. Illustrated by Willy Pogany. New York: Holt. 196 p.

Flowers and fruit tree blossoms figure in these legends elegantly illustrated by artist Pogany, making entertaining reading for young gardeners.

Roy, Lillian Elizabeth. 1921. Natalie: a garden scout. Philadelphia: Burt. 311 p. Illustrated.

A spoiled, upper class city girl in reduced circumstances is forced to move to the country where she learns to be a gardener and pursues Girl Scout activities. This is a glimpse into a time and way of life foreign to most of us, a bygone era with its good and bad, its foibles and prejudices.

Sloan, Eleanor. 1930. Little brown bean. In All sorts of good stories. New York: Dutton. pp. 68-69.

This is an amusing, yet accurate, poetic saga of the progress of a bean from seed to mature plant laden with pods of its own.

Snyder, Fairmont. 1919. The lovely garden. New York: P.F. Volland. 14th ed. Illustrated. [35] p.

A garden made for a queen brings her happiness by changing her husband's vain, short-tempered nature to one of "loving

thoughts and kindly deeds." Attractive, full color paintings augment the story.

Stratton-Porter, Gene. 1927. *The magic garden*. New York: Grosset & Dunlap. 181 p.

A runaway child finds herself loved in the magic garden of John Guido Forrester. While she grows up, the garden remains the symbol of past and future love in this highly romantic novel that makes equally romantic use of its garden theme.

Tippett, James. 1933. *A world to know*. New York: Harper. vii, 71 p. Illustrated.

This collection of poems includes several related to horticultural themes: "Grandmother's garden," pp. 8-9, and a section entitled "The apple tree knows," wherein poems deal with weather, seasonal delights, flowers, birds and "Fat old toad."

## 1866-1913 NON-FICTION

Beard, Lina and Adelia B. Beard. 1902. Odd gardens. In What a girl can make and do; new ideas for work and play. New York: Scribner's. pp. 310-321.

This is not a basic gardening how-to book, but includes several projects deemed suitable for girls in 1902, including a window box garden, water garden in tubs and dishes, seeds on a sponge and souvenir plants. It is a period piece with some still useful tidbits.

Campbell, H.L. 1883. Floriculture, parlor gardening. In American girl's home book of work and play. New York: Putnam. pp. 394-402. Illustrated.

Published in several editions during the 1890's, this is a charming Victorian view of females, suitably attired, producing the flowers with which their sex has long been associated.

Duncan, Frances. 1904. Mary's garden and how it grew. New York: Century. 261 p. Illustrated.

Mary learns about gardening during numerous visits to her friend, Herr Peter Trommel, "gardener, horticulturist, retired florist and, above all, Switzer." She and her friends form a horticultural club and follow their gardens throughout the season. Quaint, charming, some good advice, and glimpses of bygone childhood pleasures such as roping hay.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1909. When mother lets us garden; a book for little folks who want to make a garden and don't know how. New York: Moffat, Yard. 111 p. Illustrated.

Noteworthy as an early, serious gardening manual written for children. Sound advice is combined with a good selection of literary quotes on garden themes.

Ewing, Julia Horatia. 1886. Mary's meadow and Letters from a little garden. London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. New York: E. & J.B. Young. 96 p.

Both of these titles originally appeared in Aunt Mary's magazine in the early 1880's and were published in book form in several editions between 1886 and 1936. The first is a story of children who discover Parkinson's Paradise in Sole and decide

to make their own Earthly Paradise. The Letters are serious discourses on gardening directed at children. Both are interesting reading because of their views of 19th century English childhood and because of their innate appeal.

Harris, Joseph. 1883. Gardening for young and old; the cultivation of garden vegetables in the farm garden. New York: Orange, Judd. 191 p.

Harris, of Harris Seeds, produced a book that was innovative for its time by advocating the use of large, open plots and the latest tools to produce excellent flowers and vegetables profitably.

Henderson, J.A. 1912. Gardens, shown to the children. London: Jack. xii, 100 p. Illustrated.

Demonstrates basic, practical flower culture, including bulbs, annuals, perennials, rockeries and more. It is not obviously a children's book and would be useful for any beginner, although the British viewpoint does limit its applicability.

Higgins, Myrta M. 1910. Little gardens for boys and girls. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin. vii, 152 p. Illustrated.

This thorough treatment of gardening is based on the sound motto: keep it simple. It is serious, fairly elaborate and generally treats boys and girls equally.

Kelley, Lilla E. 1903. Gardens. In Three hundred things a bright girl can do. Boston: Page. pp. 554-569. Illustrated.

This book includes much useful advice on vegetables, small fruits, theme gardens, water gardens and hanging plants. The text extolls the literary connotations of the garden, as well as its fragrance and beauty.

Lounsberry, Alice. 1908. The garden book for young people. New York: Stokes. xi, 290 p.

Told in their own words, this narrative of two children establishing a garden at an old colonial house takes the reader from early spring to winter. The children learn much from an elderly man who helps them and from the garden itself and have fun in the process.

Lucas, Edward Verrall and Elizabeth Lucas. [1903] Gardening. In Three hundred games and pastimes; or, what shall we do now? New York: Macmillan. pp. 261-291. Illustrated.

An interesting period piece, British in viewpoint, this book includes basic advice mostly devoted to flowers.

Morris, Edmund. 1868. Farming for boys. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. ix, 286 p.

Although written in the form of a story, this is a thorough treatise on farming, which includes horticultural information. The moralistic is combined with solid, practical advice on gardening.

Paine, Albert Bigelow. 1905. A little garden calendar for boys and girls. Philadelphia: Altemus. 329 p. Illustrated.

A dialogue between two children presents a month-by-month compendium of gardening advice; interesting reading of value today.

Parsons, Frances T. 1896. Plants and their children. New York: American Book Co. 272 p. Illustrated.

Clearly a school text, this book advocates the use of school gardens as laboratories for the study of botany and nature.

Parsons, Henry Griscom. 1912. Children's gardens for pleasure, health and education. New York: Sturgis & Walton. 226 p. Illustrated.

A basic text, along the lines of school garden books, dealing with all aspects of vegetable gardens.

Sidgwick, Mrs. Alfred and Mrs. Paynter. 1909. The children's book of gardening. London: Adam and Charles Black. xi, 235 p. Illustrated.

The emphasis is on flower culture, although vegetables and fruits are also treated in a very attractive, informative book.

Von Wyss, C. 1912. Gardens in their seasons. London: A. & C. Black. 64 p. Illustrated.

Not so much a practical how-to-garden manual as it is descriptive, imaginative narration, this volume can still engender a feel for the life of a garden.



## 1866-1913 FICTION

Alcott, Louisa May. 1898. Flower fables. Philadelphia: Altemus.  
210 p. Illustrated.

Delightful, gentle, old-fashioned verses deal with fairies, elves, flowers and seasons. Love of the natural world, especially as seen through the garden, is the underlying theme.

Alphabet of fruits. 1875. London: Warne. [12] p. Illustrated.  
Reprinted In: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 95-97.

Small, scenic illustrations of children engaged in various activities accompany short, instructive rhymes using fruits as examples for the letters of the alphabet.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. 1911. The secret garden. London: Heineman. vii, 306 p. Illustrated.

This children's classic eloquently describes both the spiritual and physical benefits of gardening. No other book resembles it and no child should miss reading it, film versions notwithstanding. Several good editions are still in print, including a fine one published in 1987 by David Godine.

Crane, Walter. 1889. Flora's feast; a masque of flowers. London; New York: Cassell. 40 p. Illustrated.

In fairy tale verse and pastel toned paintings, spring comes to life. There have been numerous editions of this work, including a 1980 reprint published by Mayflower Books.

The floral alphabet. 1871. In Little Folks, a magazine for the young, v.2, no. 43. [2] p. Illustrated. Reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 102-103.

Several flower names serve as examples for most letters of the alphabet. Some letters are omitted, but the book includes a nice silhouette of children gardening and a narcissus and pansy. There is very little genuine floral information.

Flora's ABC. [18--?] New York: Turner & Fisher. [25] p. Hand colored folded book. Reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 111-114.

For each letter there is a flower, illustrated and named, and a verse about it. The vocabulary is far beyond that of one learning the alphabet. Horticultural information is neatly tucked into the verses. The illustrations are accurate, but not detailed.

Little Buttercup's picture book. 1880. New York: R. Worthington. [60] p. Illustrated. A garden theme alphabet from this book is reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 93-94.

The book consists of two pithy lines of verse on a horticultural theme for each letter of the alphabet, accompanied by a small illustration of the letter constructed of twigs along with flower, fruit or foliage.

The little gardener ABC. 1885. New York: R. Tuck. [14] p. Illustrated. Reprinted in: 100 Nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 89-92.

An instructive rhyme on a horticultural theme is given for each letter of the alphabet, accompanied by quaint illustrations of flowers, fruits, vegetables, children, birds and animals. The plant illustrations are accurate and the plants are named. There are two or three letters per page with at least half of each page devoted to illustration. Some genuine horticultural information emerges from the verses.

Potter, Beatrix. 1902. The tale of Peter Rabbit. New reproduction. London: Warne, 1987. 58 p. Illustrated.

The old plates are sharper and brighter in this new printing of the classic children's story of a naughty bunny's adventures in an English vegetable garden. The garden and its inhabitants are as unforgettable as Peter himself.

## 1800-1865 NON-FICTION

Breck, Joseph. 1833. *The young florist; or, conversations on the culture of flowers, and on natural history, with numerous engravings from original designs.* Boston: Russel, Odiorne & Co. 168 p. Illustrated.

Noteworthy for its emphasis on American plants and ecological awareness, this manual is one of the earliest American gardening books for children, discussing flowers, the value of birds, garden planning and other topics. It combines moral teachings with horticultural advice, the latter short on cultural detail.

Bridgeman, Thomas. 1860. *The young gardener's assistant ...* New York: Saxton, Barker; San Francisco, Bancroft. xii, 189 p. Illustrated. Originally published in 1829.

Widely reviewed and highly touted in its time, this book was aimed at the "young beginner in gardening," although how young is not clear. It is, in fact, a detailed, extensive gardening manual.

Catlow, Agnes and Maria E. Catlow. [1850?] *The children's garden and what they made of it.* London: Warne. 126 p. Illustrated.

There is considerable horticultural advice in these chapters, one for each month, that deal with the activities that go on in the Hamilton family's garden.

*The little gardener.* [1850?] New York: Kiggins & Kellogg. 175 p.

Originally a British publication, this book appeared in many North American editions during the 1850's and 1860's. The reader sees symbolically named young Adam Stock instructed in gardening, natural history and morality. Along with detailed and valuable horticultural advice and observations of the natural world are found discourses on sobriety, motherhood, aesthetics and other subjects.

Loudon, Mrs. Jane. 1855. *My own garden; or, The young gardener's year book.* London: Kerby. 98 p. Illustrated.

Small type and attractive engravings, plus basic advice, characterize this early British gardening book for young readers.

Within the framework of a seasonal arrangement, all aspects of outdoor flower gardening are discussed in depth.

The practical florist: or a description of the plants usually cultivated in the flower garden ... 1833. Newburyport: E. Stedman. 72 p.

Also called The young florist's manual, this book seems to be directed at the inexperienced rather than the merely youthful. It treats laying out of the garden, soil, cultivation, propagation and preferred varieties.

## 1800-1865 FICTION

Alphabet of flowers. 1862. Originally published in: The boys' and girls' illustrated gift book. London: Routledge. 331 p. Illustrated. Reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 104-110.

One flower name for each letter is dealt with in a short verse and accompanied by an illustration of children engaged in the pursuits described. In the reprint edition, letters C, D, E and F are missing and substituted from The flower alphabet (see below).

The flower alphabet. [1862?] Boston: Degen, Estes. [40] p. Illustrated. Reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 104-105.

Only letters C, D, E, and F are reprinted as substitutions for those letters missing from The alphabet of flowers, comments about which apply to these letters also.

Grandmamma Easy's pretty poetry about trees, fruit and flowers. [185-?] Boston: Brown, Bazin & Co.; Nashua, NH: N.P. Greene. [8] p. Illustrated. Reprinted in: 100 nineteenth century rhyming alphabets from the library of Ruth M. Baldwin. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press; London: Feffer & Simons, 1972. pp. 98-101.

The rhymes used to describe the letters of the alphabet are more elaborate than most, giving several words for each letter. Small, scenic illustrations are included as are full upper and lower case alphabets; horticultural information is minimal.

My flower-pot. [1848?] Concord, NH: Rufus Merrill. 16 p. Illustrated.

An engraved border and floral illustration share each page with a verse about flowers.

## THE COUNCIL ON BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL LIBRARIES

The Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, Inc. (CBHL) is an organization whose purpose is to initiate and improve communication between persons and institutions concerned with the development, maintenance and use of libraries of botanical and horticultural literature. CBHL encourages and assists in the coordination of activities and programs of mutual interest and benefit.

### CBHL FACTS

#### History

The Council was formally organized in a meeting held in Pittsburgh at the Hunt Botanical Library in April, 1970. At an earlier meeting, held in Boston and sponsored by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, a committee had been formed to determine if a need existed for such an organization. Librarians, as well as others dealing with horticultural and botanical literature, realized the peculiar problems they confront and were enthusiastic about the opportunity to consult, discuss and cooperate with one another. Present membership in the organization is approximately 190. This small membership allows an informal approach to common problems and interests.

#### Activities

The group publishes a Newsletter in which members are kept advised of significant events in other institutions. Items may include notices of exhibitions, significant acquisitions, missing rare books, etc.

Each member organization may, if it wishes, provide lists of duplicate titles from its collection to be circulated to the other libraries. The New York Botanical Garden has undertaken the responsibility for reproducing and circulating these lists. Price and/or other details are negotiated between the libraries directly involved. Through this program, many libraries have been able to add sought-after titles at a nominal cost while others have gained shelf space and some financial return.

An annual spring meeting is held by the membership. In the Council's brief history, these have been held at various institutions, including the New York Botanical Garden and the Horticultural Society of New York, the Smithsonian Institution, the Royal Botanical Garden, Hamilton and the Toronto Garden Centre, the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, the Holden Arboretum, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and Longwood Gardens, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Morton Arboretum and the Chicago Horticultural Society and the Denver Botanic Garden. At these meetings, usually lasting 2 1/2 days, members have an opportunity to meet one another, as well as to get an inside view of the workings of one or more institutional members. Annual meetings have included workshops on the care and repair of library materials, preservation of rare books, talks on garden literature and discussion of possible cooperative ventures on such topics as maintenance of ephemeral materials, as well as business meetings on matters of interest to the Council.

#### Organization

Activities of the Council are under the general direction of a Board of Directors, the members of which are chosen for three-year terms from the entire membership of the Council. There are two permanent members of the Board, the Secretary and the Treasurer, both elected by the Council membership.

#### Membership

CBHL membership is open to institutions and to individuals. Institutional members may designate two persons as representatives from their organization. These representatives both may vote at annual meetings, although only one will receive the CBHL mailings.

Individual members are welcome. They, of course, may vote and will receive mailings. Institutional memberships are \$50.00 per year; personal memberships are \$20.00. All memberships are on a calendar year basis.

Applications and dues should be sent to John F. Reed, Treasurer, CBHL, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458-5126. Other correspondence may be sent to Jane Gates, Secretary, CBHL, National Agricultural Library, USDA, Room 111, Beltsville, MD 10705.