



## Tiny Gardener's Vocabulary

### Growing Plants and Vocabularies

**Beginner:** Talk with your child about different vocabulary words related to plants!

**[Tip]:** Use words such as plant, garden, water, soil, root, seed, sprout, stem, leaf, shovel, trowel, rake, gloves, wheelbarrow, watering can, and "green thumb."

**Intermediate:** Together talk about, draw and label different plant categories.

**[Tip]:** Use words such as plant, flower, petal, annual, perennial, biennial, shrubs, herbs, tulip, dandelion, sunflower, evergreen tree, pine tree, oak tree, and crab-apple tree.

**Experienced:** Journal a seed's growing progress.

**[Tip]:** What did you see first? How tall is your plant? Are there any leaves or blossoms?

**Why is this important?** Using words from nature can enhance vocabulary and support language development.

**References:** Prins, J., van der Wilt, F., van Santen, S., van der Veen, C., & Hovinga, D. (2023). The importance of play in natural environments for children's language development: an explorative study in early childhood education. *International Journal of Early Years Education*, 31(2), 450–466. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669760.2022.2144147>