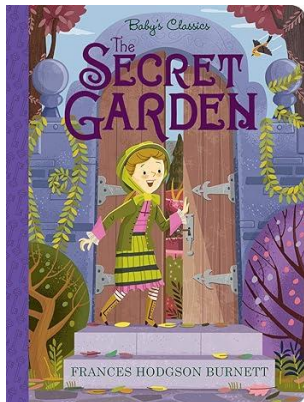


RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

The Secret Garden

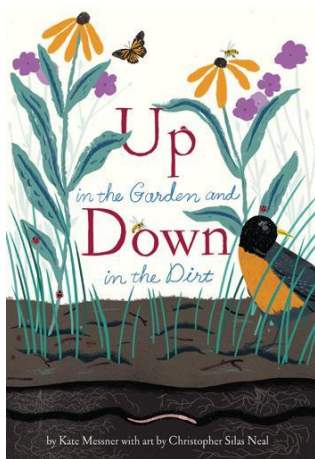
based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett, adapted by Calista Brill

Community Read, March–May 2024



The Secret Garden (an alternate adaptation for the youngest readers) by Frances Hodgson Burnett, adapted by Alex Fabrizio, illustrated by Greg Paprocki. (Starry Forest Books, 2020. ISBN 9781946260185. Recommended for ages 1-3)

From the publisher: “Read how Mary discovers the missing key to the secret garden and revives the world around her with a little kindness, perseverance, and imagination. What friendly critters and pretty flowers will you spot in the garden?” (starryforestbooks.com)



Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt

by Kate Messner; with art by Christopher Silas Neal. (Chronicle Books, 2015. ISBN 9781452119366. Recommended for ages 5–8)

From the publisher: “Discover the wonders that lie hidden between stalks, under the shade of leaves . . . and down in the dirt. Explore the hidden world and many lives of a garden through the course of a year! Up in the garden, the world is full of green—leaves and sprouts, growing vegetables, ripening fruit. But down in the dirt exists a busy world—earthworms dig, snakes hunt, skunks burrow—populated by all the animals that make a garden their home.” (chroniclebooks.com)



Community Read
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RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

The Secret Garden

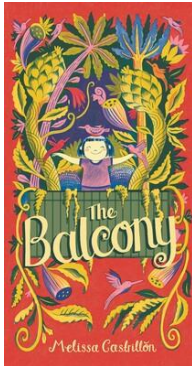
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Grow: A Family Guide to Plants and How to Grow Them

By Riz Reyes, illustrated by Sara Boccaccini Meadows (Harry N. Abrams, 2022. ISBN 9781419756658. Recommended for ages 8–12)

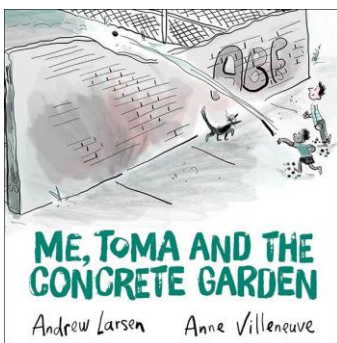
From the publisher: “Discover 15 plants and fungi with life-changing powers and learn how to grow them at home. Meet their surprising relatives...and unearth their interesting stories (lettuce was the first plant to be grown in space!). Then follow step-by-step instructions to grow and care for each one, whether you have a big backyard garden or a sunny windowsill.” ([abramsbooks.com](https://www.abramsbooks.com))



The Balcony

by Melissa Castrillon, illustrated by Melissa Castrillon (Simon & Schuster, 2019. ISBN 9781534405882. Recommended for ages 4–8)

From the publisher: “When a little girl moves from her home to an apartment in the city, she takes her pretty plants with her and one by one they grow and bloom and change both her world and the world all around her as she makes a new friend. When your heart is open, the world is full of possibilities.” ([simonandschuster.com](https://www.simonandschuster.com))



Me, Toma and the Concrete Garden

by Andrew Larsen, Illustrated by Anne Villeneuve (Kids Can Press, 2019. ISBN 9781771389174. Recommended for ages 4–8)

From the publisher: “Vincent is staying with his aunt Mimi for the summer...Mimi’s drab city neighborhood, complete with an empty dirt lot across the street, doesn’t seem too promising. But then Vincent meets Toma, a boy who lives nearby, and things start looking up. Mimi has a mysterious box of ‘dirt balls’ in her apartment. When she asks Vincent to get rid of them, the fun Vincent and Toma have throwing them into the lot becomes the start of a budding friendship. Then one day, they notice new shoots sprouting all over the lot. Maybe those balls weren’t just made of dirt after all!” ([kidscanpress.com](https://www.kidscanpress.com))



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We Are the Gardeners

by Joanna Gaines, illustrated by Julianna Swaney (Harper Collins, 2019). ISBN 9781400314225. Recommended for ages 4–8)

From the publisher: “Joanna and the kids chronicle the adventures of starting their own family garden. From their failed endeavors, obstacles to overcome (bunnies that eat everything!), and all the knowledge they've gained along the way, the Gaines family shares how they learned to grow a happy, successful garden. As it turns out, trying something new isn't always easy, but the hardest work often yields the greatest reward. There are always new lessons waiting to be learned in the garden!”

(magnolia.com)



The Garden We Share

by Zoë Tucker, illustrated by Julianna Swaney (Simon & Schuster, 2022). ISBN 9780735844841. Recommended for ages 4-8)

From the publisher: “Celebrates the friendship between a young girl and an elderly woman as they plant seeds in a community garden alongside friends and neighbors, waiting for the seeds to flower. By mid-summer, the friends welcome a rainbow of color in the garden and picnics in the sun. At harvest, the young girl’s elderly friend is bed-ridden, but jubilant as they share baskets with red tomatoes and snap peas amid the sweet smell of lavender. When the last leaves fall, everything is different. But in the

spring, hope arises anew..” (simonandschuster.com)

Junior Master Gardener (www.jmgkids.us)

The Junior Master Gardener program is an international youth gardening program of the university cooperative Extension network. JMG engages children in novel, “hands-on” group and individual learning experiences that provide a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind.

4-H (www.4-h.org)

4-H is delivered by Cooperative Extension—a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people learn by doing. For more than 100 years, 4-H has welcomed young people of all beliefs and backgrounds, giving kids a voice to express who they are and how they make their lives and communities better.



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