APRIL 2025



Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

The Chalk Garden By Sally Anne Garland

What can you create with a little chalk and a big idea? As Emma uses her imagination to draw a beautiful flower garden with sidewalk chalk, a tiny ecosystem develops outside her door, with real-life flowers that bud and bloom!



- Georgia's climate is humid and subtropical, meaning warm summers and mild winters—great for gardening!
- The state has different planting zones (6b to 9a), which determine the best plants for each area. Find you zone here.
- The famous Georgia red clay is rich in iron but needs to be mixed with compost for the best plant growth.
- Georgia is home to over 500 species of native bees, including bumblebees, mason bees, carpenter bees, sweat bees, and leafcutter bees. These bees play a vital role in pollinating gardens, farms, and wildflowers, helping plants grow and thrive across the state!
- Georgia has over 3,600 native plant species, including wildflowers, trees, and grasses that support wildlife and thrive in the state's diverse landscapes!
- The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension offers helpful resources like the <u>Home Garden Planting Chart</u>, which provides planting dates, spacing, and depths for vegetables, and the <u>Vegetable Garden Calendar</u>, outlining monthly gardening tasks and schedules tailored to Georgia's climate.

Videos:

- AgVentures to Buffalo Creek Garden in Carroll County
- <u>AgVentures Arena Acres in Houston County</u>
- Let's Plant a Garden! | Squeaks Grows a Garden! | SciShow Kids
- Watch a Seed Sprout! | Squeaks Grows a Garden! | SciShow Kids

Activities:

- Lessons: How Does Your Garden Grow? <u>K-2</u> and <u>3-5</u> | Plants Around You <u>3-5</u> | How to Read a Seed Packet <u>3-5</u>
- Problem Based Learning Project: Plan a Garden
- Easter Garden Activity: Dye Easter Eggs with fruits and vegetables that can be grown in Georgia gardens!
- Get ready for Mother's Day!!!
 - Plant Seeds in Milk Cartons. Seed observation wrapper that can be placed on the carton.
 - Card Template: Option 1-cut out handprint & add flowers | Option 2-trace hand & color handprint or use paint
- Make Pollinator Seed Balls Using Flour
- <u>Recipe: Garden Trail Mix</u> -the trail mix has items that represent all the items that are needed for a successful garden.
- Garden Coloring Page and Garden Bookmark
- Seed Observation Journal
- <u>Plant Life Cycle Bracelet</u>- Cut the cards. Place a card, the beads and an elastic string or pipe cleaner in a Ziploc bag. As you talk about the life cycle have the students place the beads on their string/pipe cleaner.
- Art Ideas: <u>DIY Chalk Paint</u> | <u>How To Draw A Tulip In A Pot</u> | <u>Make paint from berries and nature</u> | <u>Plant Markers</u>
- Plant a garden, then register it for free on the Rosalynn Carter Butter Trail

Visit <u>gfb.ag/aitc</u> for more agtivities



<u>Click here for read</u> aloud on YouTube