

APRIL 2024

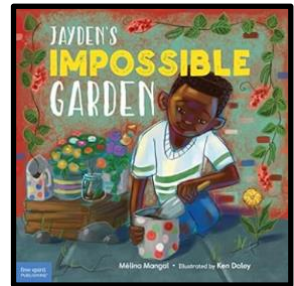


## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

### Jayden's Impossible Garden

By Melina Mangal

In the midst all the buildings, people, and traffic in his neighborhood, Jayden sees nature everywhere: the squirrels scrounging, the cardinals calling, and the dandelions growing. But Mama doesn't believe there's nature in the city. So Jayden sets out to help Mama see what he sees. With the help of his friend Mr. Curtis, Jayden plants the seeds of a community garden and brings together his neighbors—and Mama—to show them the magic of nature in the middle of the city.



[Click here to listen to the book on YouTube.](#)

#### Fun Facts:

- You can plant or harvest something from your garden almost all year. The two major planting periods, however, are spring (March to May) and fall (mid-July to September). The spring plantings are harvested in June and July, while the fall plantings are harvested from October to December.
- For summer vegetables like beans, cowpeas, corn, squashes, pumpkins, cucumbers, watermelons, gourds and sunflowers, you should plant those seeds directly into the ground once the soil is near 60° F in temperature.
- There is always something to do in the garden! UGA Cooperative Extension has a [school garden calendar](#) to help guide you on growing and using a school garden successfully.
- UGA Cooperative Extension has a [planting calendar](#) to help you plan your garden planting.
- You can use recycled items to use as planters! Click [here](#) for ideas.
- Developing and maintaining productive soil is important for any garden. Extension is able to do soil tests to provide information on the soil's actual nutrient status. [Contact](#) your local Extension Office for more details.

#### Videos:

- [AgVentures at Cobb County Farm Bureau's Community Garden in Cobb County](#)
- [How to Grow Food in a 5 Gallon Bucket- Learn from Farmer Fredo](#)
- [Farm Monitor: Lakeview Middle School's Giving Garden Encourages Personal, Community Growth](#)
- [Farm Monitor: Urban Farm Helping Serve Atlanta's West End Community](#)

#### Activities:

- Lessons: A Garden Plot: The Tale of Peter Rabbit [K-2](#) - Farming in a Glove [K-2](#) and [3-5](#) - How Does Your Garden Grow? [K-2](#) and [3-5](#) - Plants Around You [3-5](#) - [How to Read a Seed Packet 3-5](#)
- Problem Based Learning Project: [Plan a Garden](#)
- Hands-On Activity: [I Can Eat a Whole Plant!](#)
- [Plant Seeds in Milk Cartons, Seed observation wrapper that can be placed on the carton.](#)
- [Make Pollinator Seed Balls Using Flour](#)
- Recipe: [Garden Trail Mix](#) -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](#)
- [Plant Life Cycle Bracelet](#)- 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.



Visit [gfb.ag/aic](http://gfb.ag/aic) for more activities