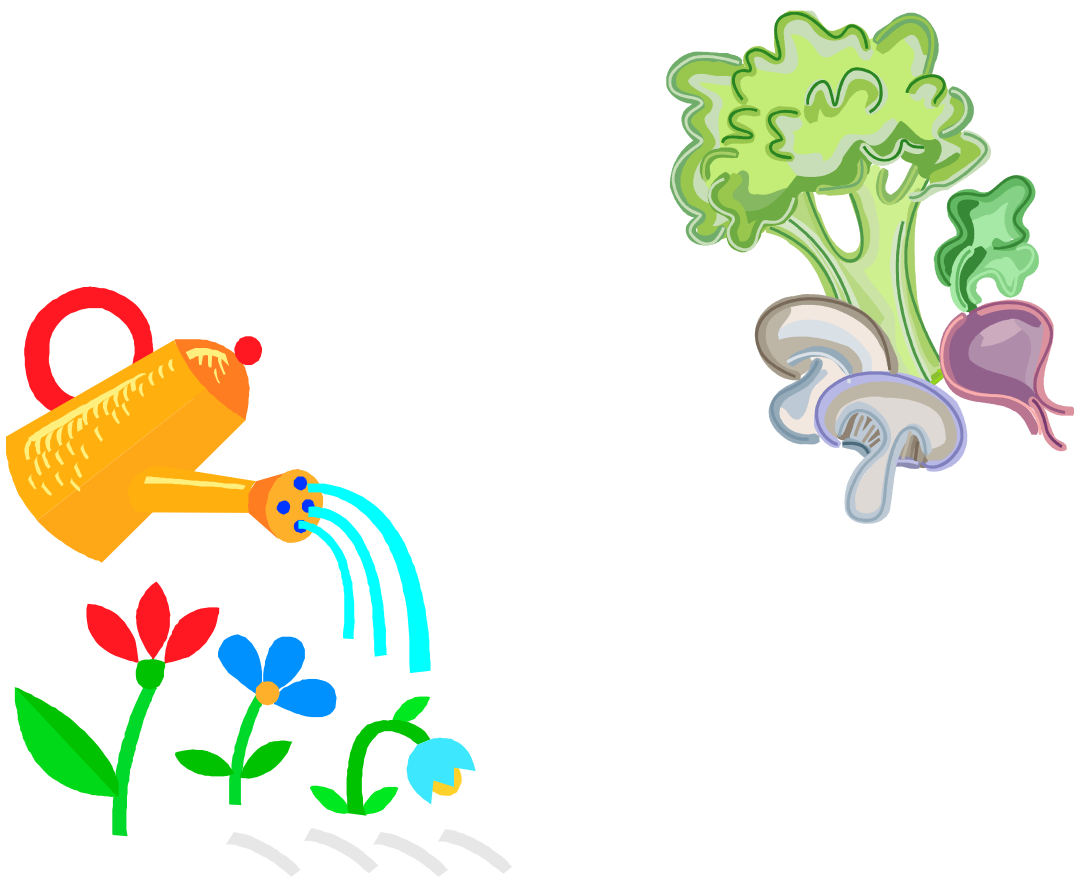


# Mini 4-H

# Bloom-n-Veggies



**Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades**

The Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service is an Affirmative Action,  
equal access/equal opportunity institution

## MINI 4-H PARENT'S PAGE

As a Mini 4-H parent, your job will be to guide and encourage your child through this project. We suggest you do not complete the activities for them. Instead, help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all they possibly can. The 4-H motto is "Learn by doing"... and is the best educational tool we can provide for youth.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the Hancock County Cooperative Extension Service at 462-1113.

It is the policy of the Cooperative Extension Service that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to its programs and facilities without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.



## MINI 4-H

Welcome to Mini 4-H! You are now a member of the 4-H family. Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun. There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom or Dad or another adult can help you with your project, and you can bring your project to the 4-H fair. Many people will be able to see what you have done. You will receive a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H.

The 4-H fair is an exciting time for 4-H members and families. It is a week that allows community youth to show their talents, interests and enthusiasm for learning.

**The 4-H Symbol:** A four leaf clover with an H in each leaf

**4-H Colors:** Green and white

**The 4-H Motto:** To make the best, better.

**The 4-H Pledge:** I pledge my Head for clearer thinking,  
my Heart for greater loyalty,  
my Hands for larger service, and  
my Health for better living,  
in my club, my community,  
my country, and my world.

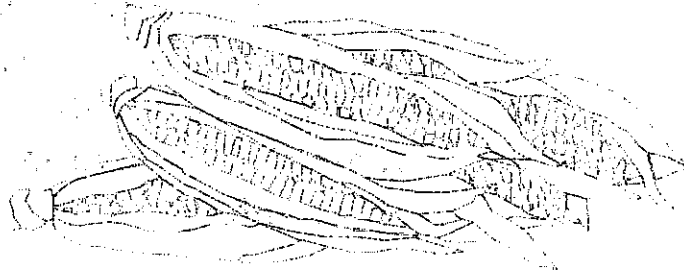
## WELCOME!

Welcome to the Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies Project! We are so glad you have decided to join on this wonderful adventure. In this project we will learn to grow flowers and vegetables.

## PLANNING YOUR GARDEN

You will need to find a spot for your garden. This plot of ground can be a part of an already existing flower bed or garden, or you can find a new spot to use. If you don't have much space you can even have a small garden in a window box or planter.

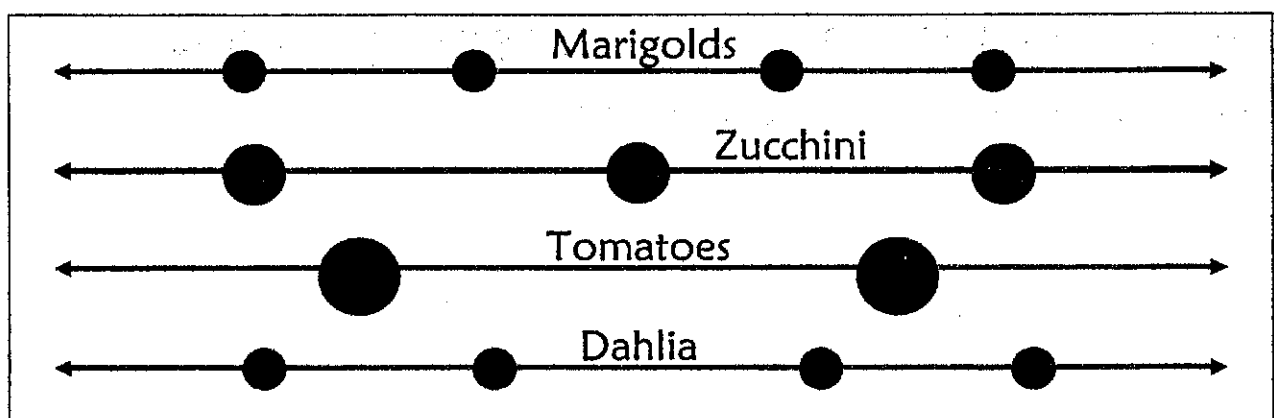
You will want to choose a spot that is flat, well drained and has sun shining on it all day long. Wherever you decide, check with your parents to make sure the spot you've chosen is OK. You don't want to plant a garden where electrical or phone wires are buried!



You will also need to decide what flowers and vegetables you want to grow. Read the requirements for your division in the back of this manual. For the vegetable option you will want to plant at least three types of vegetables listed for your division, so you will have plenty to choose from when fair time comes. For flowers you should plant three to five plants of the types listed in your division. You may also plant flowers and vegetables, but you can only show one item at the fair.

Draw a picture or diagram of where you will plant each type of plant. You should plant your plants in rows. They will be easier to weed this way. Make sure you have enough plants of each different variety, so you will have enough vegetables to show at the fair.

Here is an example of a diagram of a garden:



## PREPARING THE GROUND

You can prepare the ground in April or May when it is no longer frozen. You will want to have an



adult rototill the dirt, or use a shovel to get fresh dirt on top. Make sure there are no weeds or grass in your garden.

## PURCHASING PLANTS

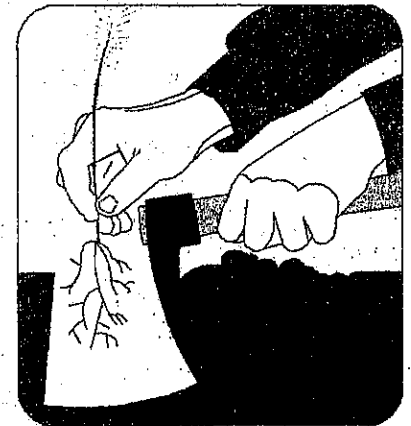
Buy your plants when you can plant them without the risk of them freezing. The standard frost free date in Indiana is May 15, but you can plant some plants earlier if you use caution. When you buy them, ask someone about the plant's needs. How much water do they need? Will they need to have a stake to hold them up? It is best to buy your plants from a greenhouse where someone can answer all your questions.



You may also plant seeds instead of already started plants. Green beans and carrots will need to be planted from seeds. However, most vegetables will not be mature enough to exhibit on time if you start them from seed. If you do decide to start your plants from seed, follow the directions on the back of the package. Start the seeds inside in small pots several weeks before you plan to plant them in your garden.

## PLANTING YOUR PLANTS

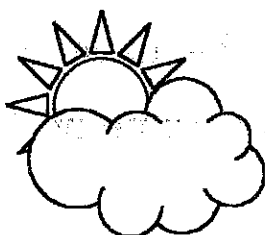
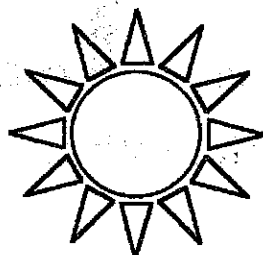
Different plants need to be planted in different ways and at different times. You should be sure to read the tags that come with your plants or ask someone at the store where you bought them to determine how far apart and where to plant your plants. Some plants like the sun and some like the shade. On the next page is a chart showing some of this information.



Type	How far apart	When to plant	How deep (for seeds)	How soon till harvest
Cabbage	18 inches	April 15	use transplants	55-65 days
Carrots	2 inches	April 10	½ inch	70-75 days
Peppers	18 inches	May 15	use transplants	55-70 days
Summer Squash	48 inches	May 15	use transplants	50-80 days
Tomatoes	24 inches	May 10	use transplants	40-70 days
Green Beans	2 inches	May 10	1-2 inches	55-60 days

## TAKING CARE OF YOUR GARDEN!

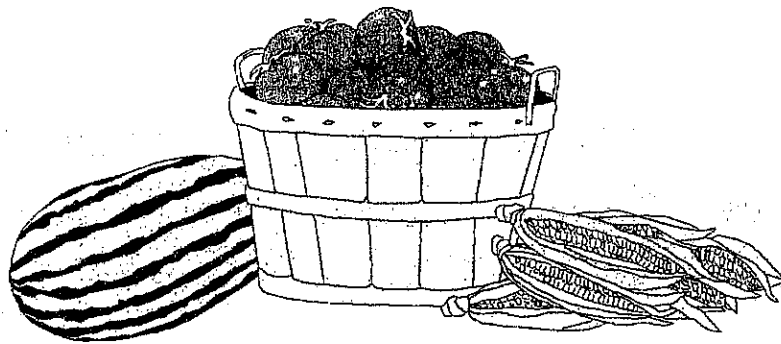
You're garden will need lots of care if you want to have a good harvest. You will want to keep the weeds out by using a hoe. You can also ask an adult to help you fertilize it one or two times. You should also make sure the plants have plenty of water and sun.





## HARVESTING!

In a couple of months you will get to harvest the vegetables and flowers you have taken such good care of. Right now you can turn to the page for your division and learn how to exhibit your vegetables or flowers.



## DIVISION I - KINDERGARTEN

This year you can exhibit one of the following:

- One bloom from a zinnia or marigold flower.

Exhibit it in a disposable plastic or glass container such as a soda bottle. You should only show one bloom of your flower with about a five inch stem.

Ask an adult to help you trim away any extra buds or blooms on the stem. Attach one of the project labels below to the project

OR

- One plate of any one of the following vegetables: Zucchini or Summer Squash, Tomatoes, Carrots, Cabbage, Green Bean, or Peppers. Exhibit your vegetable on a paper plate. Do not cover your plate with plastic wrap or a plastic bag. Fill out the label on the bottom of this page and staple it to the plate.

<b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b> <b>Division I - Kindergarten</b> Name: _____ Age: _____	<b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b> <b>Division I - Kindergarten</b> Name: _____ Age: _____
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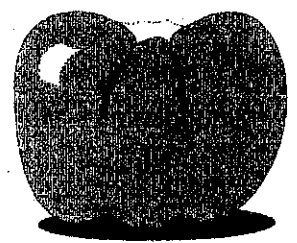
**DIVISION II - 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE**

This year you can exhibit one of the following:

- One bloom from a zinnia or marigold flower. Exhibit it in a disposable plastic or glass container such as a soda bottle. You should only show one bloom of your flower with about a five inch stem. Ask an adult to help you trim away any extra buds or blooms on the stem. Attach one of the project labels below to the project.

OR

- One plate of any one of the following vegetables: Zucchini or Summer Squash, Tomatoes, Carrots, Cabbage, Green Bean, or Peppers. Exhibit your vegetable on a paper plate. Do not cover your plate with plastic wrap or a plastic bag. Fill out the label on the bottom of this page and staple it to the plate.

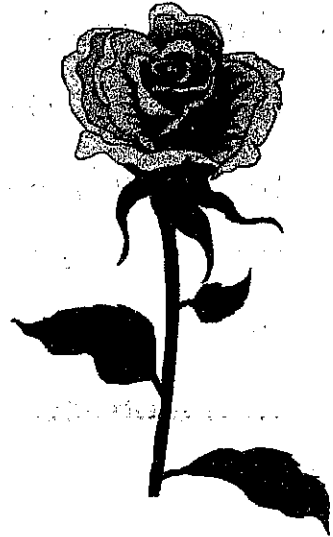


<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Division II - 1<sup>st</sup> grade</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Age:</b> _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Division I - 1<sup>st</sup> grade</b></p> <p><b>Name:</b> _____</p> <p><b>Age:</b> _____</p>
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## DIVISION III - 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE

This year you can exhibit one of the following:

- Three blooms from a zinnia, cosmos, dahlias or marigold flower. Exhibit them in a disposable plastic or glass container such as a soda bottle. You should show three blooms from the same variety that are as close to the same size as possible. Each bloom should have its own stem of about five inches. Ask an adult to help you trim away any extra buds or blooms on the stems. Attach one label from below to your container, and fill out the record sheet in the back of this book and turn it in with your project.



OR

- Two plates of any vegetable of these vegetables: Zucchini or Summer Squash, Tomatoes, Carrots, Cabbage, Green Bean, or Peppers. Instructions about size, number, color, and shape are on page 14. Exhibit your vegetables on paper plates, one



type per plate. Do not cover your plate with plastic wrap or a plastic bag. Attach one label from the bottom of this page for each plate! Fill out the record sheet in the back of this manual and turn it in with your project.

<p><b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b> <b>Division III- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade</b> Name: _____ Age: _____</p>	<p><b>Mini 4-H Bloom-N-Veggies</b> <b>Division III - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade</b> Name: _____ Age: _____</p>
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## VEGETABLES TO EXHIBIT

Type	Number	What it should look like
Zucchini or Summer Squash	1 Squash	Should be all green or all yellow depending on the variety. Should be small and tender not overripe.
Carrots	3 carrots	Should be long and orange with top leaves cut about ½ inch long.
Cabbage	1 head	Heads should be solid and crisp. Should be red or green in color. Leave on 3-4 outside leaves.
Tomatoes, any type	3 tomatoes	Should all be same size and type. Remove stems. Should be almost completely red.
Green Beans	10 beans	Should be about 4 inches long. Should be brittle, firm, seeds should not show on outside.
Peppers, any type	3 peppers	Should be firm, smooth, and mostly one color. Trim the stems to about ¼ inch.

