THE PANTHER PRIDE Middle School Edition

## Gardening Week

"There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments."
~ Janet Kilburn Phillips
What an amazing time of year! Flowers are blooming. Leaves are popping out on trees. Lawns are greening up. Summed up in one word...a time of GROWTH!

Watching things grow is fascinating. But nurturing and helping something grow is rewarding.

Earlier this spring, some of us planted seeds inside in containers, waiting for them to become strong enough to plant outside. While others of us are waiting for the soil to warm up enough to sow our seeds in the garden.
Gardening is a lot of work. But it doesn't have to cost that much. Everyday, we throw away parts of fruits and vegetables that we could use to regrow more! For free!

## Your Challenge:

Grow food from parts of the vegetable/fruit.

## Don'f Threw That Away!

Growing food with kitchen scraps.

It can save you money, cut down on food waste, and teach valuable lessons about nature and sustainability! Scraps still have plenty of life left. They can be grown inside all year long, or be moved to the garden. Try some of these out!

Bottoms/Base: Celery \& Romaine

- Cut off the plant's base (the part you would normally throw away). It must be at least 1 inch tall.
- Place it base down in about $1 / 2$ an inch of water.
- Refresh the water every couple of days.
- Plant in soil when you see new green growth.


## Roots: Onions Green Onions \& Garlic

- Cut off the root end. It must be at least 1.5 inches tall.
- Place it water and wait a couple of days for it to callous over.
- Plant it in soil root-side down.


## Peel: Potatoes

- Potatoes have eyes on them. If you've ever had the job of sprouting potatoes, it's out of the eye that the spout grows.
- Cut a 2 inch cube with the peel on it. Make sure it has at least 1 eye... 2 or 3 are better!



## If All Starts With A Seed

## All the plants around you start life as a seed.

Without seeds, there would be no plants and Earth would be a barren place that would not support the many forms of life that surround us every day. Seeds are usually fairly small. Some are even tiny. Despite their small size, though, seeds contain food and all the instructions necessary to sprout to life as a plant. When seeds are planted, they first grow roots. Once these roots take hold, a small plant will begin to emerge and eventually break through the soil. When this happens, we say that the seed has sprouted. The scientific name for this process is germination.

As the plant grows and begins to make its own food from nutrients it takes from the soil, it will grow into a larger plant. The seed itself is like a survival package. It contains the food the seed needs while it is growing roots and forming into a small plant. The three things plants need to grow are light, food and water. Light, whether from the Sun or an artificial light source (like a light bulb), gives the small plant the energy it needs to begin photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is the process the plant uses to convert light energy into food.

Like all living things, plants need water. Once a seed sends out roots, these roots will deliver water from the soil to the plant. As the plant grows and needs more water, roots will grow longer and stretch farther to find the necessary water in the soil. When you get dry seeds at a gardening store, the seeds are dormant, which means they're inactive. All it usually takes to wake them up, though, is just to add water. Whether you plant them in moist soil or simply wrap them in a moist paper towel, they will begin to come to life.

Amazingly, scientists still don't fully understand what all happens inside of a seed as it comes to life. As the seed soaks up water, its food stored inside begins to be converted into energy in the form of enzymes. These enzymes start the process of sending out roots and sprouting the first parts of the plant. Exactly how all this works is still a bit of a mystery, but it is fascinating to watch whether you're a child or an adult!

1. Go through the text and find the definition of the highlighted words.
2. Name something you already knew, something you learned and a question that you have after having read the text above!


## Get Out Of liene!

## Top 5 Culprits of Garden Destruction

1. Deer: Managing their impact is very expensive due to their size. Most obvious and less harmful solution is commonly fencing.
2. Groundhogs: If seen, catch and release far away from your home with a nonlethal trap!
3. Rabbits: A repellant that is safe for the environment is the easiest way to prevent them from entering your garden.
4. Raccoons: Due to their intelligence, these animals require multiple tactics to scare away, such as fences, trapping and repellant.
5. Squirrels: These animals are small enough to get through the smallest spaces and able enough to climb fences with ease. Repellent is best choice.

> Catching and killing these animals is illegal in many parts of the country. Always use non-lethal products.

## Plawt Seeds \& Wafth Them Enow

All the plants around you start life as a seed.
Learn about seed germination by planting some seeds and by following the growth of the seedlings as they sprout from the soil. Make sure to take proper care of them with just the right amount of light, heat and water. Have fun growing plants with this cool science project.

## What you'll need:

- Fresh seeds of your choice such as pumpkins seeds, sunflower seeds, lima beans or pinto beans.
(2) Good quality soil (loose, aerated, lots of peat moss), if you don't have any you can buy some potting soil at your local garden store.
- A container to hold the soil and your seeds.
- Water
- Light and heat


## Instructions:

1. Fill the container with soil.
2. Plant the seeds inside the soil.

Activity: Create a list of local farms/ markets in our area and what they grow/sell.
3. Place the container somewhere warm; sunlight is good but try to avoid too much direct sunlight; a windowsill is a good spot.
4. Keep the soil moist by watering it every day (be careful not to use too much water).
5. Record your observations as the seeds germinate and seedlings begin to sprout from the seeds.

## What's Happening?

Hopefully after a week of looking after them, your seedlings will be on their way. Germination is the process of a plant emerging from a seed and beginning to grow. For seedlings to grow properly from a seed they need the right conditions. Water and oxygen are required for seeds to germinate. Many seeds germinate at a temperature just above normal room temperature but others respond better to warmer temperatures, cooler temperatures or even changes in temperature. While light can be an important trigger for germination, some seeds actually need darkness to germinate, if you buy seeds it should mention the requirements for that specific type of seed in the instructions.
Continue to look after your seedlings and monitor their growth. For further experiments you could compare the growth rates of different types of seeds or the effect of different conditions on their growth.


## This Wreek's Schnath Problems

| Monday | Farmer Joe from Petit Potato farm is preparing to plant a crop of potatoes this spring. The field will have 317 rows of potatoes <br> with 195 plants in each row. Derrick estimates that they will plant the entire field in 15 hours with their planting machine. How <br> many potato plants are there in all? How many potatoes will be planted each hour? |
| :--- | :--- |
| Tuesday | Mary is going to the garden centre to buy some garden tools to tend her new vegetable garden. She would like to buy a rake <br> for $\$ 27.08$ and a hoe for $\$ 14.20$. Mary also needs a shovel that costs $\$ 13.62$. How much will these three items cost? |
| Wednesday | A raised garden box with the dimensions of $8 f t(l o n g)$ by $6 \mathrm{ft}($ (wide) by $3 \mathrm{ft}($ (tall) is built. What is the volume of soil that the box can <br> hold? |
| Thursday | Use the information from Wednesday's question: Good nutrient rich soil can be made with a combination of $75 \%$ topsoil and <br> $25 \%$ compost. With this winning combination, what volume of each will be in the box? |
| Friday | Mr. Matte is planting 10 trees in his backyard, all varying in species. The total weight of all 10 trees is 75 kg . The individual weights <br> are $15 \mathrm{~kg}, 13 \mathrm{~kg}, 11 \mathrm{~kg}, 10 \mathrm{~kg}, 9 \mathrm{~kg}, 8 \mathrm{~kg}, 4 \mathrm{~kg}, 2 \mathrm{~kg}, 2 \mathrm{~kg}$, and 1 kg . He needs to pack all the trees into 3 crates . Each crate can only <br> hold 25 kg . How can he pack the crates? |

## Planifier Sen lofager

## Un des secrets du succès: bien se préparer avant de se lancer.

D'abord, on évalue nos connaissances en jardinage. On est débutante? On se limite à des cultures faciles comme la bette à carde, la laitue ou la tomate. Ensuite, on détermine l'ampleur du projet: on a de l'espace pour trois ou quatre pots, ou on dispose de plusieurs mètres carrés? La réponse influencera le choix des légumes qu'on fera pousser. Autre facteur à considérer: nos goûts et ceux des gens qui profiteront de nos récoltes. Par exemple, les enfants apprécient souvent les mini-légumes, comme les

|  |  |  |  | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pois | Concombre | Oignon | Carotte | Tomate |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Poireaux | Haricots | Tagete | Laitues | Persil |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Bette a cadre |  | Basilic | Coriandrre |  | mini-tomates; c'est le temps d'y penser.

## La clé du succès est dans la préparation.



Élabore un plan pour un potager. Faits une légende des légumes que tu vas récolter dans ton potager et dessine le potager.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Binette | Râteau | Pelle | Brouette | Petite pelle | Arrosoire |
|  |  |  |  |  | $H$ |
| Fourche à bêcher | Coupebordure | Binette à dents | Sécateur | Boyeaux d'arrosage | Tuteur |

## Or' estrce qu' ily alans fon potager?

Justin, Amélie, André et Sarah sont des voisins. Ce printemps, chacun a planté un potager dans sa cour. Tous les potagers contiennent un légumefeuille, un légume-racine, un légume-fruit et une herbe fine. En utilisant les indices, peux-tu déterminer ce que chaque personne a planté dans son potager?


1. Amélie a planté un oignon, mais pas d'épinards ou de chou.
2. André n'a pas planté de carottes ou de concombres.
3. Le voisin qui a les avocats dans son potager a aussi planté la ciboulette et les oignons.
4. Justin a planté des pommes de terre et du persil.
5. Le voisin qui a planté les carottes n'a pas planté du chou ou du céleri.
6. Le voisin qui a des carottes dans son potager a aussi des piments et de l'origan.
7. Le voisin qui a les épinards dans son potager, n'a pas planté des pommes de terre, d'oignons ou de carottes.
8. Le voisin qui a planté les laitues, n'a pas planté les concombres.
9. Sarah n'a pas planté les concombres.

|  | Justin | Amélie | André | Sarah |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Légumes-feuilles |  |  |  |  |
| Légumes-racine |  |  |  |  |
| Légumes-fruit |  |  |  |  |
| Herbe fine |  |  |  |  |

## Notre Potager

## Le Plan Du Potager

Nous avons fait un potager à l'école. Pour commencer, nous avons fait le plan du potager.

## La Jardinerie

Notre enseignant est allé dans une jardinerie pour acheter des semences de légumes pour notre potager. Il a aussi acheté des plants de légumes.


## Faire Le Potager

Tout les élèves ont aidé à faire le potager. Nous avons mis de l'engrais dans les platesbandes. J'ai planté des graines de haricots et des laitues. J'ai arrosé mes plants. Nous avons mis un paillis autour de plants.
 pour dîner. Nos légumes sont très bons!

## Agricultere in NB



## One of the oldest and most important technologies is agriculture.

It is the process in which land is cultivated to care for and produce animals and plants for humans to consume, or eat. An important part of the local economy in NB is farming. It employs over 13000 people and is valued at over $\mathbf{1}$ billion dollars. Farming is the second largest economic sector in New Brunswick. Our most widely sold crop is the potato. This is because it is relatively easy to grow in harsh conditions, important for New Brunswick since only $\mathbf{2 0 \%}$ of our land can produce nutrient rich vegetables. Most crops grown in New Brunswick are consumed within the province, except for potatoes and berries which are exported across Canada and the United States.

Many of us have a very close connection to farming in this neck of the woods. For some of us, it's in our blood...farming, maple products, blueberries, etc.

How is agriculture important to you and your family?
Do you see agriculture in your future? How so?

## Whated Dead Or Alive

## Two Dangerous Suspects on the Loose in New Brunswick Forests, Cities and Towns.

## May 25, 2020

Police are on the search in NB today looking for two suspects responsible for dangerous assault and destruction of property. Chief of Police, Faye Kename, has urged the public to be on the lookout for a tall and slender purple suspect who goes by the alias "Purple Loosestrife" and its short and dumpy white partner in crime, known as "Giant Hogweed."

Chief Kename stated, "It is believed they came to our country long ago from Europe and Asia, hijacking ships by travelling as seeds on the bottom of sailors' boots. Purple Loosestrife has been seen in our towns and cities for hundreds of years, but its accomplice Giant Hogweed has only been in our country since 1917.

Crimes -> deaths of native plant species and injuries to native animals and townspeople.
Purple Loosestrife's MO -> smothers out native plant populations by spreading so easily.
Giant Hogweed's MO -> has a watery substance inside its branches that can cause severe burns, and even blindness when exposed to sunlight.

Detective Aryu K. Idding stated, "It was 2008. We were led on a high-speed chase down the Trans Canada between Petitcodiac and Moncton when we saw the suspects hiding in ditches by Magnetic Hill. We jumped out and yelled 'Freeze!' but they refused to comply. Just stood there swaying gently in the wind! After our tasers and pepper spray had no effect we tried negotiations. After 12 hours, we realized they couldn't speak!

Last week, a civilian, Shirley Yucant Besirius, detailed her close encounter with the two suspects: "I saw two hitchhikers on the road. As I slowed my car down I realized they had long purple leaves and round white bulbs where their faces should be. Next thing I knew, they entered my car and demanded I take them to the nearest airport by pointing to a map aggressively with their stems. They took my iPhone and sent a text to some guy named Poison Ivy saying they'd be in Maine shortly. I never dreamed picking up two plants could ever turn into this."

Around $30 \%$ of plants in NB are invasive species, but these two are known to be two of the most dangerous. If you do see any sign of Giant Hogweed notify city officials immediately and do not hesitate to uproot Purple Loosestrife. Save our native flora by planting native species on your own property and stop these criminal plants immediately.

The Usual Suspects
Using the description of the suspects in the news article, identify which of these plants is Purple Loosestrife and Giant Hogweed.



## Don't Sipo BEE-liteving

The bee is a fascinating part of nature.

Activity: Find information about another invasive species in NB and share it on teams.

While many people view bees as scary insects that may sting when disturbed, bees play a critical role in the daily lives of humans. From pollinating up to $1 / 6$ all flowering plants in the world to increasing the yield of food crops, bees are a vital part of the global economy.

Lines: Good Boys Do Fine Always
Spaces: All Cows Eat Grass
Remember...the rhymes work from the bottom up.


Go to the Cheerios website to get your free pack of sunflowers and HELP BRING BACK THE BEES!

