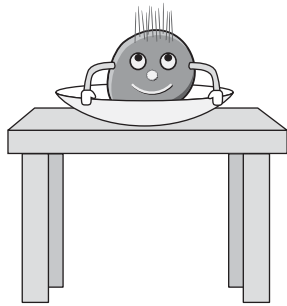


# Garden

## Growing "Green" Thumbs



### Themes:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Movement
- Nature
- Science

### Skills:

- Expresses Self
- Observes & Discovers
- Puts Items In Sequence
- Solves Problems
- Uses Fine Motor Skills

### Classroom Activities

➡ Tell the children that a garden is a piece of land you grow things on. Look through magazines and books about gardens to explore different types of gardens. For example: vegetable, flower, fruit, herb, butterfly and rock gardens. Cut out pictures and create a collage of gardens. Record the children's descriptions of the collage.

➡ Collect and explore various types of seeds with the children. Using a muffin tin, have the children count and sort the seeds by size, color and shape.

➡ Invite the children to create their very own miniature "wheelbarrow" by using the scoop (with a handle) from powdered laundry detergent and plastic caps from gallon water jugs. Glue the "wheels" to both sides of the scoop cup (open end facing up). The handle on the scoop is the wheel barrel handle! Next, put soil in the wheelbarrow. Invite the children to use their wheelbarrows to transport the soil.

➡ Young children love to use tools! Introduce the children to the various tools used when planting a garden. Label the tools and show the children how each tool is used. Provide child-sized tools and invite the children to plant their own seeds. Provide watering cans, trowels, gardening gloves, seeds, soil and small pots or cups.

ON DISNEY CHANNEL

playhouse  
Disney

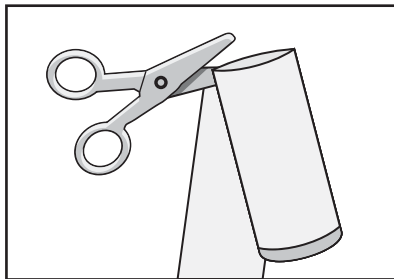
Disney

HANDY MANNY

# Garden

## Growing "Green" Thumbs

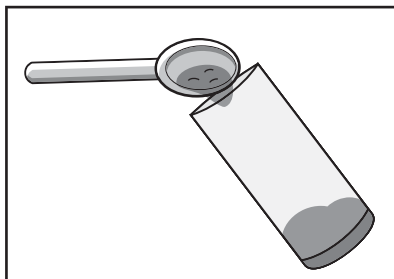
Invite the children to create "plant people" by following the instructions below. You will need the following materials: old pantyhose, grass seed, soil-less potting mix, shallow dishes, craft supplies and craft glue.



### Step 1

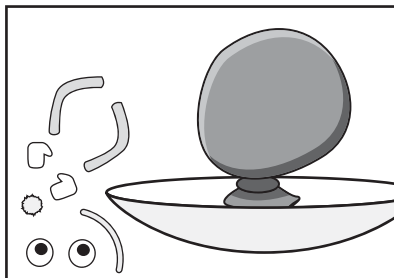
[Note: This step should be completed by the teacher.]

Cut a 6 to 8 inch-long piece of pantyhose. If your piece does not include a toe, knot one end of the hose and turn it inside out so that it looks like a little bag.



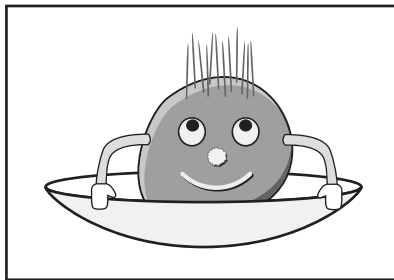
### Step 2

Scoop 2 to 3 teaspoons of grass seed into the closed "bag." Fill the rest of the hose with potting mix and tie the hose closed. Have the children use their hands to gently manipulate the ball into a head shape.



### Step 3

Place the head in a shallow dish with the grass seed end facing up. Use craft pieces such as wiggle eyes, buttons, pompoms, felt and pipe cleaners to create a face and arms. Attach with craft glue.



### Step 4

After the glue has dried, have the children carefully water their new plant person until the soil is thoroughly moist and place in a warm location. Check daily to make sure soil stays moist. If it dries out quickly you can keep a small reservoir of water in your dish. Within 3 to 5 days your plant person will begin to grow hair! Once the hair is established you can give your plant person a hair cut, or just let it grow and see how long it will get!

