

Brown Bag Demonstrations

How Does Your Garden Grow?

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Supplies Needed: Four charts and seed label samples

What to Do	What to Say
Chart #1	Mistress Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? Even Mary needed a plan to grow her silver bells and cockle shells. It is best to put all vegetable garden plans on paper. Planning a garden on paper will help to answer many questions before planting.
Chart #2	The date for planting each vegetable in the garden is important. Some vegetables can withstand a frost. These are “cool season” vegetables like potatoes, lettuce, carrots, and cabbage. “Warm season” vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet corn and watermelon cannot withstand frosts. Choose the vegetables to plan in the garden.
CHART #3 showing form for planting	After selecting the vegetables to plant, list them on paper indicating the following:
Point to proper depth	Proper depth – Each vegetable seed needs to be planted at the proper depth. Seed planted too deep will not come up through the soil. Seeds laying on the surface of the ground will not germinate. Seed packets usually indicate planting depths and distances.
Point to plant spacing and row spacing	Planting spacing and row spacing are important as each vegetable planted requires a certain amount of space to develop. Many vegetables need to be thinned as the seedlings develop in order to develop fully.
Point to expected harvest date	Note the number of days to harvest and use a calendar to figure out the expected harvest date.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example of garden diagram • Show direction of rows • Put corn on diagram on west side 	Once I have decided on the vegetables to grow and how much space is needed, I need to diagram my garden on paper. Rows of garden vegetables receive more sunlight if they run north and south. Tall crops planted on the west side will protect small crops from the wind. If possible, plant the garden in sequence – early vegetables at one end proceeding toward the other end with warm season vegetables.
Chart #4	<p>Summary: A good gardener needs a PLAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan what to plant • Plan when to plant • Plan where to plant • Plan how to plant <p>Are there any questions? Be like Mistress Mary, quite contrary, and plan your garden of silver bells, cockle shells, and pretty maids.</p>

How Does Your Garden Grow?



Cool Season

- Potatoes
- Lettuce
- Carrots
- Cabbage



Warm Season

- Tomatoes
- Cucumbers
- Sweet Corn
- Watermelon

Seed Label Samples

Summary

- . Plan what to plant
- . Plan when to plant
- . Plan where to plant
- . Plan how to plant

