Planting Seeds is a simple rhyming board book. Count along and see what happens as ten bunnies’ plant seeds.

In the Garden is another board book. In it the main character plants some seeds and waits patiently. Then he seems to forget about the seeds, and something wonderful happens.

In Ten Seeds we count backward from ten to one. A little boy has planted ten seeds, and one by one something happens to each seed that prevents it from growing. Then that last strong seeds turns into something beautiful. This book was a great way to talk about why we plant so many seeds and the kinds of things that can be harmful to seeds.

A Fruit Is a Suitcase for Seeds is a wonderful nonfiction book for preschoolers. It is full of great facts from how seeds travel to different kinds of seeds that you would find in different plants. This book inspired us to do a little science investigation and cut open different kinds of fruits to check out their seeds.

The simple text in Seeds Go, Seeds Grow makes it a great choice for preschoolers. The photographs, showing plants up close and in detail, are terrific. This is another nonfiction book that shares information about seeds, how they move, and where they can be found on different plants. For readers learning about nonfiction text features the book also includes a glossary and an index.

How a Seed Grows begins by telling a bit about seeds, where they can be found on different plants and how they can grow fast or slow. Then the book takes readers through the process of planting a seed and nurturing it to help it grow. This book is a wonderful companion to read as you are planting and monitoring the growth of your own seeds.
From Seed to Plant teaches kids how seeds form, how they move, and how they grow. As is characteristic of Gail Gibbons books, the illustrations are very detailed yet simple enough for young readers to focus on the most important concepts being taught. We enjoyed spending a lot of time looking at the illustrations and discussing what was happening in each picture.

One Bean is another book that is great to use as you plant your own seeds. It walks kids through a planting a bean seed and watching it grow. My kids loved this one, because the details very closely mimicked what was happening with our bean seeds.

From Seed to Plant is part of the Rookie Read-About Science Series. It is a very simple nonfiction text that is perfect for beginning readers.

The Tiny Seed follows a single seed as it is whisked away by the autumn wind. On its yearlong journey readers discover all that the tiny seed goes through to eventually become a giant flower.

Seeds! Seeds! Seeds! is another great book that encourages kids to get involved. In the story Buddy’s grandfather sends him five colorful bags and a note. Each bag has a surprise that helps learn about seeds. Kids can get their own seeds and join in as buddy sorts, collects and eats the seeds from his grandfather.

Flip, Float, Fly: Seeds on the Move teaches us about different seeds and how they move. This was one of my daughter’s favorite books in this collection. She loved the illustrations.
Glenna’s Seeds is a story about a random act of kindness. Glenna, a young girl, gives a packet of seeds to her neighbor, and so begins a trail of random acts of kindness that brightens up the whole street.

Dandelion Adventures (Out of Print) was such a great book that I had to share it even though it is no longer in print. I hope you can find it in your collection or at your local library. This book is perfect to read before going out to look for dandelions. In the story the wind blows and scatters dandelion seeds all about. We discover where each seed lands. There are also some useful facts at the back of the book.

The Dandelion Seed is the opposite of Dandelion Adventures. In this story one single dandelion seed holds on, afraid to let go. The harder the wind blew, the tighter the seed held on. Then when the seed finally lets go we travel along with the seed until one day the seed takes root and begins to grow on its own. Overtime the seed grows and blooms, and we find ourselves back at the beginning again with one lonely seed hanging on. While this story is great for teaching about how seeds travel and the life cycle of plants, I also love the opportunity it allows for talking about life lessons like growing up and not being afraid of change.

Reading Rose’s Garden immediately reminded Lovey and I of the activities we did with the The Queen of France. In this adorable book Rose travels the world in her teapot and collects seeds. She plants them in a dusty forgotten stretch of earth in the city. Then she waits and waits. But as she does so, she gets quite a surprise and a lot of community involvement in support of her garden.
To Be Like the Sun is a lovely poem that shares a little girl’s conversation with a sunflower seed as she follows it through the life cycle of the plant. I love how her curiosity reflects the way young kids approach nature and scientific discovery.

Sunflower House is another book that extends beyond “seeds,” but I love the pretend play that it encourages. In the book seeds are planted and grown into a special fort for friends to play in. It would be a wonderful book to read when planting your own “sunflower house.”

- The Magic School Bus Plants Seeds by Joanna Cole
- Oh Say Can You Say Seed? by Bonnie Worth
- Once There Was a Seed by Judith Anderson and Mike Gordon
- Johnny Appleseed by Reeve Lindbergh
- Anno’s Magic Seeds by Mitsumasa Anno
- A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston
- The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle
- Jack’s Garden by Henry Cole
- Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert
- How a Seed Grows by Helene Jordan
- From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons
- The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert. Describes the steps involved in growing vegetables and making vegetable soup (recipe included). This book fills a niche; it is a good book for getting very young kids excited about growing vegetables. Ages 2+

Two Old Potatoes and Me by John Coy and Carolyn Fisher. A satisfying story about a girl and dad who try growing potatoes for the first time. Two Old Potatoes and Me is nicely paced with graphic, playful illustrations. Ages 3+

Vera’s Baby Sister by Vera Rosenberry. A wonderful story about a girl, Vera, whose house is filled with noise when her baby sister arrives. Vera’s grandpa helps Vera plant a bean tent, which serves as a quiet space where Vera can go to be alone. Vera’s Baby Sister realistically describes the feelings that can accompany the arrival of a new sibling and has a sweet ending. Ages 3+

Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow: A Compost Story by Linda Glaser and Shelley Rotner. A clear introduction to composting, with photographs of kids gardening. Pair this with Compost Stew by Mary McKenna Siddals and Ashley Wolff, an upbeat rhyming book that lists everything that can be composted. Ages 4+

How Groundhog’s Garden Grew by Lynne Cherry. When Little Squirrel discovers Groundhog eating veggies from a neighbor’s garden, he decides to teach Groundhog to grow his own vegetable garden. Lynn Cherry has incorporated a ridiculous amount of information about how to garden into this story. If you are looking for one book to read to your kids before planting your own vegetable garden, this is an excellent choice. Lovely illustrations. Ages 5+
Flower Garden by Eve Bunting and Kathryn Hewitt. A rhyme about a young girl who surprises her mother by planting flowers in a flower box. A great book to share with young children and city dwellers. Ages 2+

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert. A fantastic concept book that describes a child and mother planting a flower garden and introduces kids to flowers and colors. Zinnia’s Flower Garden by Monica Wellington is another charming story to introduce slightly older kids to flower gardening. Ages 2+

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown. A magical story about a young boy who discovers a patch of wildflowers growing on an abandoned railway. When the boy cares for the wildflowers, they begin to thrive and transform the city. Peter Brown has imagined and created a extraordinary green city that my children are delighted to visit. For another whimsical story about gardening, see My Garden by Kevin Henkes. Ages 3+

Miss Lady Bird’s Wildflowers by Kathi Appelt and Joy Fisher Hein. The winner of the coveted Broadmoore children’s choice award. Both my six-year-old son and four-year-old daughter have been asking me to read this book repeatedly. Miss Lady Bird’s Wildflowers is a biography of former first lady Lady Bird Johnson. This book describes how wildflowers comforted Lady Bird when her mother died and how Lady Bird worked to ensure that all children could experience the beauty of wildflowers. Ages 5+

Butterflies in the Garden by Carol Lerner. An introduction to butterflies and attracting butterflies to your yard. Butterflies in the Garden features Carol Lerner’s beautiful, detailed illustrations of butterflies and flowers. See also A Place for Butterflies by Melissa Stewart and Higgins Bond. Ages 5+
Compost Stew

This is a wonderful book that shares just what can go into a compost bin.

From the Garden: A Counting Book About Growing Food (Know Your Numbers)
Counting from 1 to 12 while gathering items from the garden is such fun.

The Curious Garden
A little boy seeks to make his community garden more beautiful and over time his garden spreads through out his city.

Flower Garden
A little girl and her dad create a wonderful window box garden for the little girl's mom. What a wonderful surprise.

Counting in the Garden
This is a counting book with wonderful pictures. As you go through the book a new items is added to the garden.
Growing Vegetable Soup
All the steps need to grow, harvest and prepare vegetable soup are described in this book.

This book contains wonderful ways to get children into gardening.

How Groundhog's Garden Grew
Instead of borrowing vegetables from other animal's gardens Groundhog learns how to grow his own.

Jack's Garden
This book follows the rhythm of "This Is the House That Jack Built" only this time Jack plants a garden.

One Bean
This book walks you through how a bean grows.

Planting a Rainbow
This wonderfully illustrated book walks you through how many different plants grow. It shares not only planting seeds, but seedlings and bulbs too.

Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden
The photos and text in this book walk children through the life cycle of a pumpkin.

Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots: Gardening Together with Children
How to create 12 themed gardens is shared in this book.

Sunflower House
The life cycle of a sunflower are shared in this wonderful story. Oh! A wonderful sunflower house is shared too.

The Carrot Seed Board Book
Everyone in this book tell a little boy his carrot seed won't grow. He tends to it and it does grow.
The Gardener
This terrific story features a roof garden created by a little girl visiting family in the big city.

And the Good Brown Earth
A grandmother and her grandson both choose to garden their own way and end up with a wonderful garden.

Zinnia's Flower Garden
Zinnia and her animals create a wonderful place for flowers to bloom.

The Ultimate Step-by-Step Kids' First Gardening Book: Fantastic Gardening Ideas for 5--12 Year Olds, from Growing Fruit and Vegetables and Having Fun with Flowers to Indoor and Outdoor Nature Projects
150 garden projects for children 5-12 are shared in this book. What a wide variety of ideas displayed for you to try!

Whose Garden Is It?
Every person, animal, and insect that lives and works on the garden in this book things it is theirs. The impact each has on the garden is shared in such a wonderful way in this book.

Rosie Sprout's Time to Shine
Rosie has a gift of helping others and tending to not only her bean plant at school, but another student's. I love this book.
D.W. the Picky Eater

Arthur creator Marc Brown shares how D.W. overcomes her stubbornness to try new (and healthy) foods. After her bad behavior gets her in trouble, D.W. gives something new a shot and finds out something surprising.

A Bad Case of Stripes

Camilla Cream loves her lima beans, but is embarrassed by her healthy eating habits. When misfortune strikes causing Camilla to become the center of everyone’s attention, she has to decide between being made fun of for how she looks or eating her favorite healthy snack.

Eating the Alphabet

This book is a simple one that explores the alphabet through Lois Ehlert’s classic illustration of fruits and vegetables. There were even a few in here I had never heard of!
Lily-Rose May is a picky eater who refuses peas in any shape or form. But when she gets a case of princessitis, she has to rethink her picky ways.

The family is not eating as healthy as they should, and it’s starting to show. They work together as a family to get healthier through changing their eating and exercise habits.

Lola is funny and cute and very sure that she will not eat several different things, one of which is tomatoes. Can her big brother Charlie and his imagination change her mind?

The silly rhymes in this book are what make it so fun and enjoyable to read. The vivid photographs also give readers a detailed view of some veggies that might not be so familiar.

All the colors are wonderful to Marlene McKean…. unless she’s eating them. In that case, she has a “no green” rule.