



Dot's Green Thumb

Encourage your child to have a green thumb! In this activity, children have the chance to grow beans from the ground up and create their very own garden.

Materials

1. beans (pole, lima, or snap beans are easy to grow)
2. fork
3. marker
4. masking tape
5. old soup cans (for planters)
6. potting soil
7. gravel or pebbles
8. Arthur's Green Thumb Planter Label Worksheet

Directions Grow and care for plants with your children.

1. **Prepare:** Soak the beans overnight so they will grow faster.
2. **Plant:** Talk with your children about plants, explaining that plants need water and light to live. Help each child fill a can no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ full with a small amount of gravel or small pebbles. Then fill each can no more than $\frac{3}{4}$ full with potting soil. Plant the beans that have been soaked overnight under a shallow layer of dirt (one or two beans per can). Children can make labels for their planters using the Arthur's Green Thumb: Planter Label Worksheet. Place the cans in a sunny area.
3. **Nurture:** Show children how to water their beans every day or two so that the soil is moist but not wet, and discuss how the plants change as they grow.

Take It Further

Teach your child how to be good to the environment by playing

Groovy Garden!

This game will teach your child little tips and tricks that will help them be greener in their daily routine.



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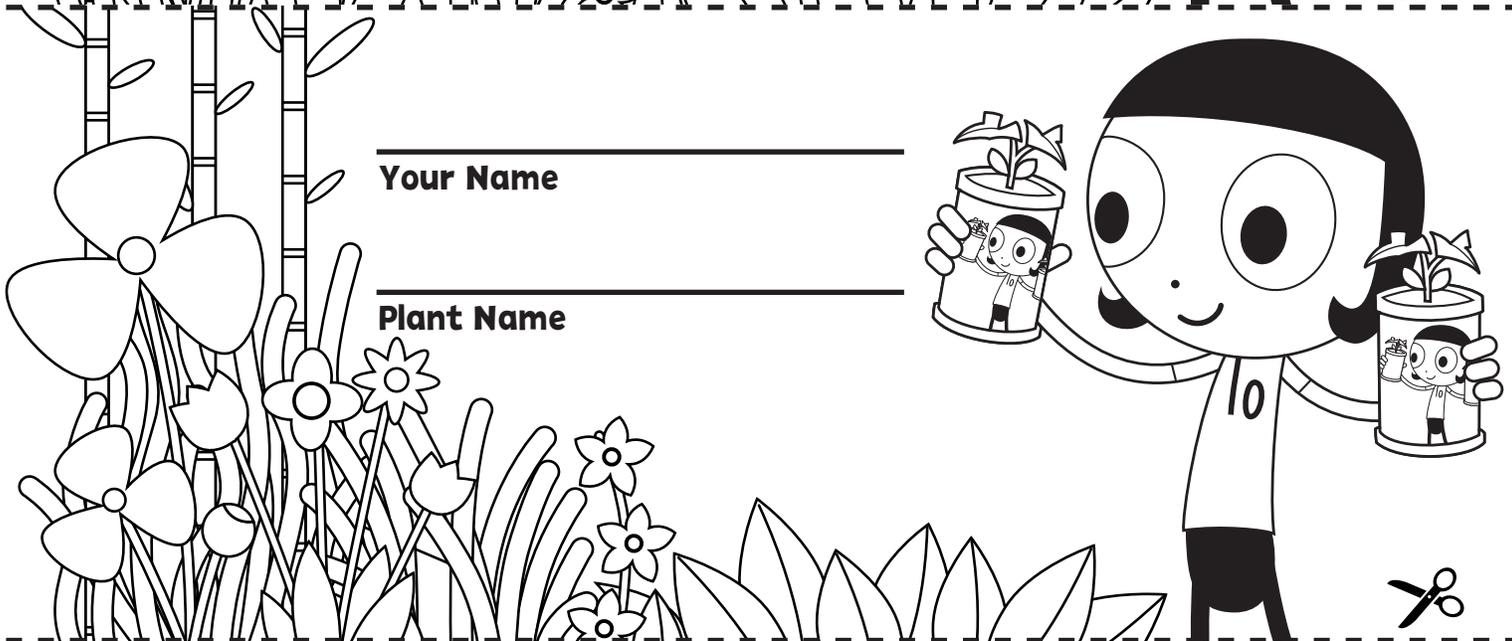
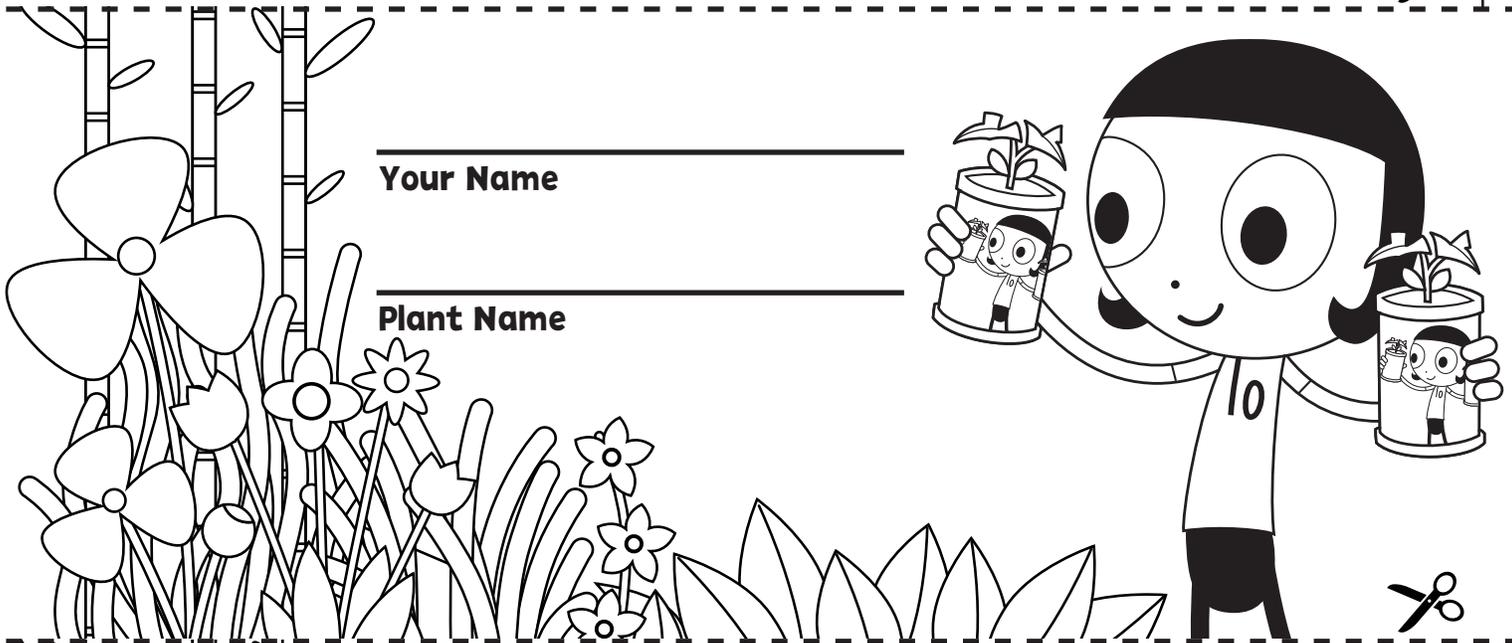


Dot's Green Thumb: Planter Label Worksheet

Create labels for your new garden planters!

Directions

1. Using the boxes below, create labels for your new plants. You can write your name, the type of plant, or color on the label!
2. Cut out the label and tape onto the outside of your planter!



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