

Week 3



Dear Parents,

In garden science this week, we learned about the space the plants will need to grow in our garden. During one lesson, the students pretended to be vegetables growing in the garden. They learned that when plants grow too closely together, they might not get enough water, light, nutrients, or other things that they need.

Attached to this page is not just a paper towel. On it, your child has glued 16 carrot seeds to create a “paper towel garden.” The paper towel will help guarantee that the seeds will have just enough space to grow and thrive.

Follow these steps if you would like to plant this paper towel “garden” and grow carrots at home:

1. Lay the paper towel on top of a large pot filled with potting soil or on top of moist soil outside. Make sure that the plants will get at least 6 hours of sunlight a day.
2. Wet the towel by gently spraying it or pouring water over it.
3. Use a pencil to poke each seed into the soil. Push the seeds only about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep.
4. Gently pat the soil and water it again.
5. Be sure to keep the soil moist for the first 2 weeks so the seeds can grow. At first, long, bushy leaves will sprout up.
6. The carrots will take a couple of months to be ready to harvest. You’ll know that they are ready to pull up when you see the round orange tops of the carrot poking out of the soil. They should be at least as big around as a dime.

Hint: Sometimes the round orange tops are hiding just beneath the ground. After several weeks, you can gently brush away the soil at the base of green leaves to see the carrot top.

Thanks for your interest! If you want to learn more about our Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! project and things your family can do at home, go to www.jmgkids.us/LGEG.

Be sure to look for next week’s update letter!

Sincerely,

