

# Steps to Planting Potatoes

[www.JMGkids.us/virtualLGEg](http://www.JMGkids.us/virtualLGEg)

Choose a sunny place to grow the potatoes.

Prepare the soil by removing rocks and making it smooth.

Cut the potatoes so that each piece has an eye with a sprout. Allow it to dry a few days before planting.

Dig a hole for each sprout.

Put the potato piece in the hole with the eye facing up.

Cover the potatoes with soil to make small hills.

Water them gently.

Keep the garden weeded.

Keep the plants watered.

When the plants start to sprout up, add some compost or more soil.

As the plants grow bigger, keep adding compost or soil.

If you see an insect on the potato plant, remove it.

Even when the leaves turn brown, keep the plants watered and weeded.

When the plants are tall (or after 3 months), dig to the roots to find the potatoes.



To find the best time to start a potato garden in your area, contact your county Extension office (links for contact information are available at [www.jmgkids.us/MyCounty](http://www.jmgkids.us/MyCounty)) and ask for the planting dates for potatoes.

Your letter should include:

## Potato Explorer Letter Writing Assignment



Salutation & introductory sentence



Steps to grow potatoes



Closing sentence & signature