National Children's Gardening Week

Make a sunflower smile

Grow yourself happy with a smiley sunflower!





Here's what you'll need!

Shopping list for your local garden centre:

Pack of sunflower seeds

Small plant pots

Bamboo cane

Garden string

Multi-purpose compost

Instructions:

- 1. Fill your small pots with compost.
- 2. Plant a seed in each pot and give it a watering. Put your pot onto a window sill and water it once the seed sprouts so the compost stays damp.
- 3. As your sunflower grows, tie the stem of the sunflower loosely to the bamboo cane with your garden string to support your plants.
- 4. Once the frosty weather is over (usually mid-May), dig a hole in your garden for your sunflower. Ideally dig it next to a wall or fence that gets lots of sun.
- 5. Squeeze your sunflower and the compost it's growing in out of your pot, and plant it in the hole you've dug. Put a bamboo cane next to your sunflower, and give your sunflower a good watering.
- 6. As your sunflower grows, make sure you tie the stem to the bamboo cane loosely with garden string. Try tying it using a 'figure-of-eight' knot as this will reduce any rubbing on the stem.
- 7. When your sunflower appears, gently tease out the seed heads to make a fantastic sunny smiling face.







Visit your **local garden centre** to get started. Show us your creation! Use **#NCGW** on social media.