



National Children's Gardening Week **Competition for Schools 2019**

About the competition

This year we're inviting schools to take part in our square metre gardening competition. It's simple and fun; all you need to do is set out some square metre plots and see what food the children can grow from their plots.

There's a top prize of **£250** and three runner up prizes of **£100**, all in National Garden Gift Vouchers that you can put towards your school's gardening.

How to enter

Entering is easy. All you need to do is post a photo of your square metre gardening activity (or any other school gardening project or activity that you're doing) on the National Children's Gardening Week Facebook page before the **10 May**, including a sentence or two on what benefits your pupils get from school gardening.

facebook.com/nationalchildrensgardeningweek

Our prize draw for schools

To help schools with their school gardening, we also have 200 £10 National Garden Gift Vouchers for schools who enter our prize draw. We hope it'll help you get some of the plants you might want for the competition. For details on how to enter the prize draw (terms & conditions apply) visit our web page.

childrensgardeningweek.co.uk/schools

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Square metre dinners

What can you grow on your plot?



Here's what you'll need!

Shopping list for your local garden centre:

String or wood to mark out your square metre plots

A tape measure

Young plants or seeds from your garden centre

Plant labels

Rake

Watering can

Liquid plant food

Spade /Trowel

Tip - Plants like salads and herbs are a good choice for this. You could also use potatoes, swiss chard, tomatoes, peppers, strawberries or cauliflower – they're all good to try out. If you want to give beans or peas a try you may need some bamboo canes for your plants to climb up.

Instructions:

1. Pick an area that gets good sunlight to divide up into square metre plots for the children. Make sure you will be able to get water to the area you pick.
2. Use string and the tape measure to divide your area into square metre plots. Doing this with the children can be used to help explain concepts like shape, space and measurement.
3. Give the children a plant label and ask them to write their name on it. Use the label so you can remember whose square metre plot belongs to whom!
4. Ask the children to dig over and rake their square metre plots until the soil is broken up and fine.
5. When the soil is ready, get the children to plant their seeds or young plants into their square metre plots.
6. When the plants go in, make sure the children give them a good watering.
7. Over the coming weeks the children should see their plants start to grow. Work with the children to keep their plots watered and cared for. As the plants grow, there will be opportunities to discuss topics such as germination and plant growth, as well as where food comes from.



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

www.childrensgardeningweek.co.uk