

## There's something magical about gardening!

....and children know that!

## Toddlers love spending time outdoors discovering nature.

You will find lots of things to explore in the garden and you can develop their experiences by enjoying the outdoors together.

Being physically active outdoors enables young children to learn about the world around them.

To encourage their interest in gardening, encourage the use of the 5 senses by introducing some of the following ideas...

• Introduce your toddler to garden worms, ladybirds and butterflies and talk about their importance in nature

Plant sunflowers and see how tall they grow

• Create a patch of their own to dig in and give them their own small tools i.e. large spoons and kitchen utensils. Give them real potatoes and carrots to play with in the soil

- Use the watering and point out all the thirsty plants
- Grow strawberries in tubs and enjoy the fruit. Your children will be able to see that growing new plants is really that easy!
- Make a garden sensory bin using soil, herbs and pots



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