

Grow Your Own Grub Container Growing



Getting Started

This part of the site is aimed at schools who will need to grow in containers because they do not have any open ground. However, schools with open ground may also choose to plant in containers for a variety of reasons such as:

- a) The ground to be used for growing may be very overgrown and it may be easier to use pots instead.
- b) Pots can be moved about and it may be useful for you to be able to do this at your school.
- c) Pots can be decorated by the children which would bring an art element into the growing project.



Here are the steps to getting started:

1. Choose an area which will be suitable for placing your containers taking into consideration the points discussed in 'choosing your growing area'.



2. Collect your containers. You may choose to buy some using the ordering form (click here to enter the 'Equipment Needed' page) but there may be other ways of getting suitable containers e.g.:

- a) Recycling and reusing! Plants can be grown in any number of interesting containers so long as you can make drainage holes in the bottom and they are sturdy enough to hold compost. You will need to put stones or bits of polystyrene in the bottom of pots to help drainage. Plants can be grown in tyres, old metal pots such as buckets, watering cans or even a colander! Old shoes and boots (especially wellington boots) can look very good and baths or the shell of a broken vacuum cleaner,



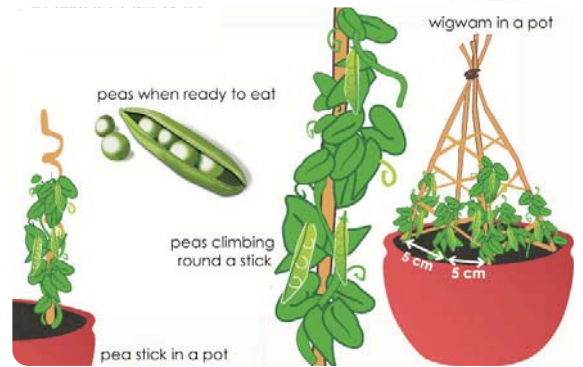


Peas:

Peas can be grown in pots with the support sticks placed in the pots as well. Each pea plant needs to be planted 5cm from the next one. A pea wigwam placed in a pot for the pea plants to climb up looks very effective.



These need a lot of sun and a sheltered site if possible.

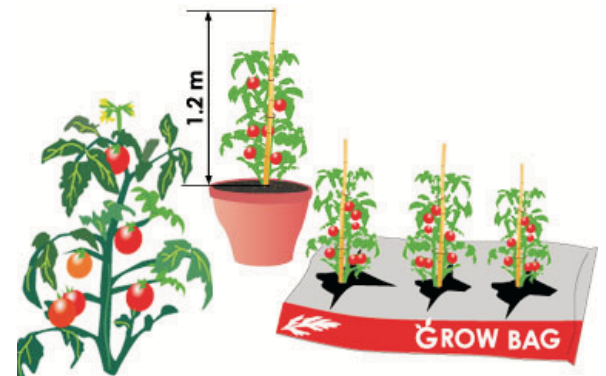


Tomatoes:

Tomatoes need a lot of room to grow, they need to be about 30cm apart so it would be best to either have one tomato plant per pot (minimum size of 6in diameter) or use a grow bag as these will take three tomato plants. A trough could be used as well.



Tomatoes need a lot of sun and a sheltered site if possible.

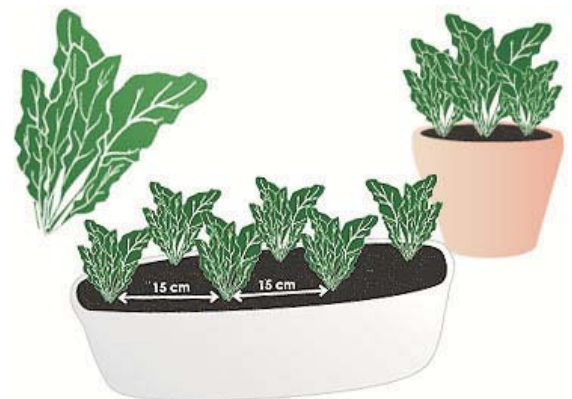


Spinach:

These need to be spaced 15cm apart; they don't have to be in rows so they can go into pots or troughs.

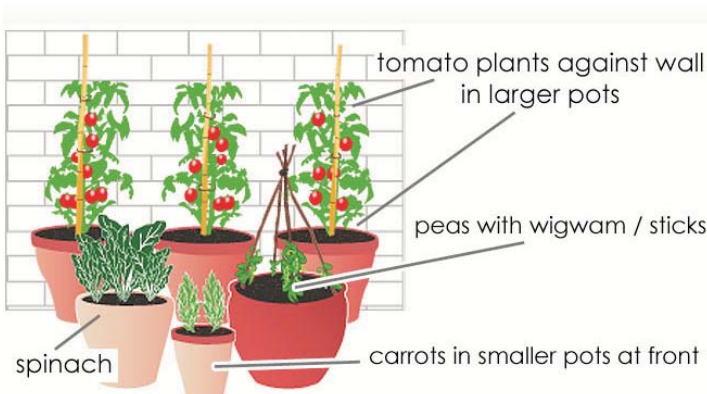


Spinach likes a little bit of shade as well as sun, so the pots could be placed to allow for this.



Examples of container growing designs/plans

Design 1 (Below): Against a wall, large pots at back, smaller pots at the front



Design 2 (Below): tomatoes in the centre surrounded by the other pots

