

## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM BULB PROJECT

### GRADES 3-5

Dear Parents:

This week, your child had the opportunity to work in the outdoor classroom. During his/her library time, your child read about bulbs, observed bulbs under a microscope and planted a bulb in the outdoor classroom. In addition, each classroom teacher received paper white bulbs to grow with the students. Paper whites grow indoors and allow the students to observe first hand how a bulb grows. Planting bulbs with children is a great way to introduce them to the concepts and joys of gardening. This activity sheet provides some ideas for you and some reinforcement activities for your child. Please check out our web site at <http://gloveroutdoorclassroom.home.comcast.net>. Please feel free to send your comments, observations and suggestions to [gloveroutdoorclassroom@comcast.net](mailto:gloveroutdoorclassroom@comcast.net)

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#### **Hands-on activities to do at home:**

1. Grow paper whites at home. Instructions can be found at your local garden center or at [www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/case5/index.html](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gpe/case5/index.html)
2. Plant your own bulb garden. A good resource is [www.bestgardening.com](http://www.bestgardening.com)
3. Do you know which end of a bulb is up? Have your child remove a garlic bulb from the clove. Where do you think the roots will develop? The stems? The leaves? Poke toothpicks in the clove and suspend it (bottom down) in a glass of water? See what happens.
4. Onions are bulbs too and you can use them to observe what happens inside a bulb as it grows. [www.earthsbirthday.org](http://www.earthsbirthday.org) provides a great activity for sprouting and dissecting onions.
5. A great web site for learning more about gardening with children is [www.kidsgardening.com](http://www.kidsgardening.com)
6. Read **The Secret Garden** by Frances Burnett with your child.

## LABEL THE PARTS OF THE BULB

ROOTS  
STEM  
NEW LEAVES  
FLOWERS  
BASAL PLATE  
FOOD  
TUNIC



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### WORD UNSCRAMBLE

LIPUT                    \_\_\_\_\_  
FALIFDOD              \_\_\_\_\_  
LUBB                    \_\_\_\_\_  
UTROSP                \_\_\_\_\_  
WLEFRO                \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHOS                  \_\_\_\_\_  
TORO                    \_\_\_\_\_  
IGRSNP                \_\_\_\_\_  
MDANOTR              \_\_\_\_\_

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### RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. Can you name some foods that are bulbs?
2. How are bulbs and seeds similar? Different?
3. Why do we plant most bulbs in the fall?
4. **Challenge question:** What is photosynthesis? How are we helping the earth by having an outdoor classroom?

**\* Check out the answers on our web site.**