

# Taking My Plant Home

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

We have been discovering how seeds grow!

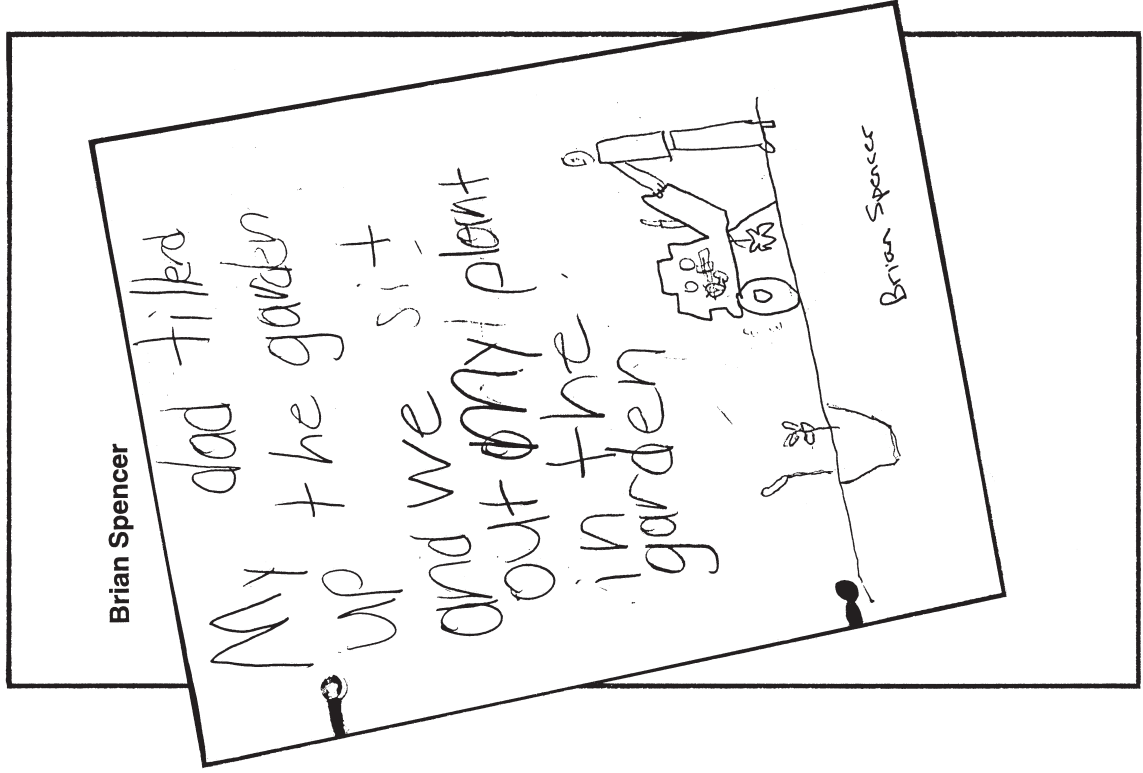
My class planted four different seeds.

I planted \_\_\_\_\_

Now it is ready to be transplanted.

Please help me transplant my plant.

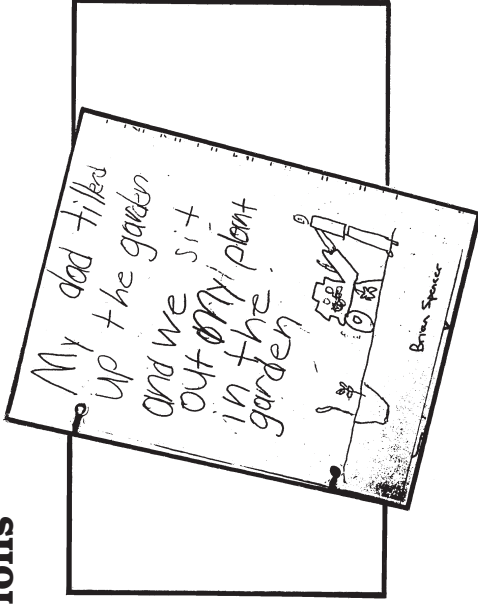
Directions are on the next page.



## General Transplanting Instructions

For each plant you need:

- 1 15.2 cm (6 in) pot with drainage saucer (unless otherwise indicated in **special requirements** below)
  - Potting soil
- 1 spoon
  - Water
  - Newspaper



1. Cover your work area with the newspaper.

2. Prepare the pot. If you have used the pot before, make sure to wash it out. (Do not use soap.) Be sure the pot has a drainage hole. Fill one-third of the pot with potting soil.

3. Coax the plant out of the cup with a pencil or similar tool, gently loosening the soil around the plant and taking care not to damage the roots. (Do not grab the stem.) Tip the cup and tap the bottom gently to dislodge the young plant. If the roots are bound tightly, gently loosen them with your fingers.

4. Place the plant in the middle of the pot and add potting soil to within an inch of the pot's top. Press the soil gently around the plant. Water the pot thoroughly until water comes out the drainage hole. This will help pack the soil around the plant.

The plant will go through a period of shock from being transplanted. Do not worry; it should adjust quickly.

Lighting and other **special requirements** for each plant type are listed below. Eventually, if you want to transplant your plant outdoors, refer to a gardening book. Two recommended books are *The Youth Gardening Book*, by Lynn Ocone and Eve Pranis, and *The Garden Primer*, by Barbara Damrosch.

**Kidney bean:** needs full sun and good drainage

**Pea:** needs partial shade and prefers to be planted in a hanging basket

**Sunflower:** needs full sun

**Pumpkin:** needs sun and a bushel pot to grow well indoors