



# Design a mini 'No Adults Allowed' garden

**Win  
£1,000**  
for your school  
garden!



**NO ADULTS  
ALLOWED**

**TOP SECRET**  
FOR KIDS' EYES ONLY





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Imagine your very own special garden that has been designed by children and is only for children. A garden where the grown-ups aren't in charge – you are!

# Are you ready to design a No Adults Allowed garden?

**If you could design your own garden for you and the rest of the children in your school, what would be in it?**

For the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2024, a group of pupils have designed their very own 'No Adults Allowed' garden complete with a den, slide and plenty of spaces to explore, hide and play in. But now it's your turn to create something special.

Work through this booklet and let your imagination run wild as you design your very own 'No Adults Allowed' garden.

You'll also create a mini, planted version of your garden for a chance to win £1,000 of gardening vouchers for your school.

## Psst!

You will need your teacher or teachers to help you with this project so maybe give them a secret password that only they know, allowing them to have special permission to hear your garden plans.

Password:

No Adults Allowed Garden,  
designed by Harry Holding and pupils  
from Sullivan Primary, London.



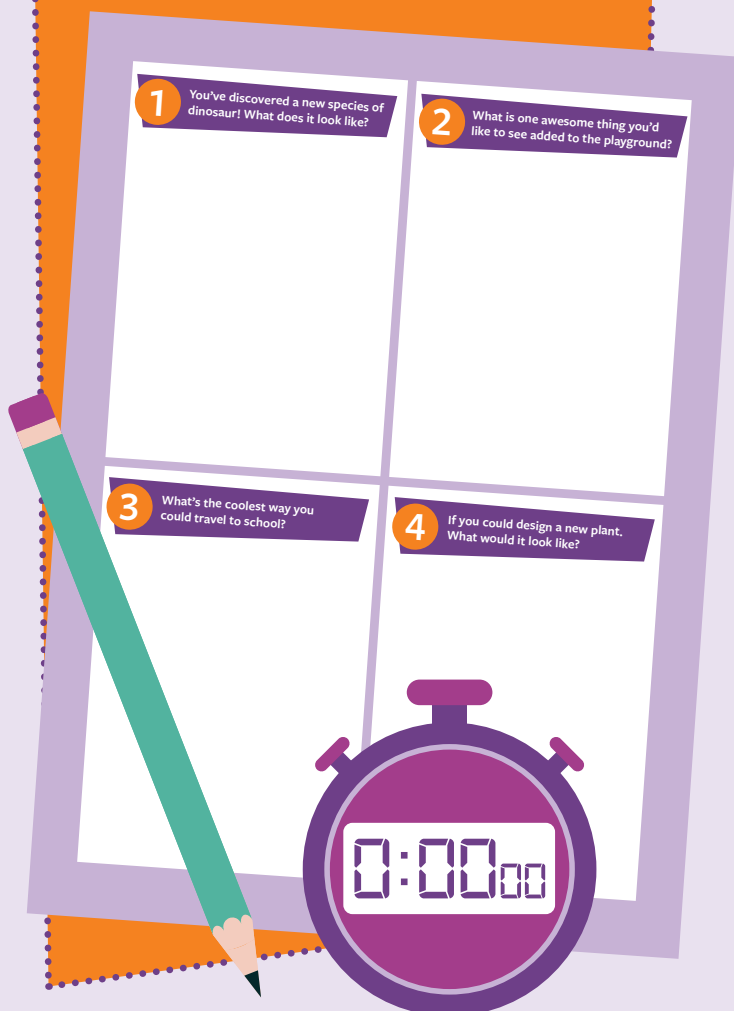


First things first, let's get your creative brains warmed up.

# Activity 1 – Warm up

For this activity, each person will need:

- A pen or pencil
- An activity sheet (you can ask your teacher to photocopy the sheet on the next page)
- A timer



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**This is a timed task so you will need your teacher or a friend to time you.**

**What to do:**

- 1 On the next page you will find a grid with four questions in each box.
- 2 Read question one, start a timer for two minutes and draw your answer to the question.
- 3 When the timer goes, read question two, set the timer for two minutes and start again.
- 4 Keep going until you have drawn a picture for each question.
- 5 Share your ideas with the rest of your class or group.

There are no wrong answers for this activity. Simply draw the first thing that comes to mind – it can be as random, imaginative and weird as you like! Two minutes isn't very long so get drawing as quickly as possible.

**Ready, set, draw!**





1

You've discovered a new species of dinosaur! What does it look like?

2

What is one awesome thing you'd like to see added to the playground?

3

What's the coolest way you could travel to school?

4

If you could design a new plant. What would it look like?



# Activity 2 – What is a garden?

The dictionary definition of a garden is:

## garden (gahr-dn)

noun

1. a plot of ground, usually near a house, where flowers, shrubs, vegetables, fruits, or herbs are grown.
2. a piece of ground or other space, commonly with plants, trees, etc., used as a park or other public recreation area: *a public garden.*

But we think a garden could be more than just a space to grow things. It can be somewhere to have fun, relax, feel calm and explore.



### What to do:

Look at the pictures on the next page and answer these questions. Pair up with the person next to you and share your thoughts:

1. Which of these pictures do you like the most and why?

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2. What sorts of things might you like to see in your dream garden?

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3. How would you like a garden to make you feel?

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Gardens can be amazing places for us to enjoy. But they can also be very special for other reasons. Get together as a class or in small groups and discuss how you think gardens could help with each of these important issues. If you have the time you can even do some independent research into each topic.

## Supporting wildlife

**Wildlife plays an important role in our planet's biodiversity and food chain. Gardens can be a space to give wildlife a helping hand, and in return wildlife will help keep your garden growing!**

## How do you think we can help wildlife in our gardens?

[illegible]

## Growing food

Growing our own food can be really exciting and can help us to reduce our carbon footprint as it doesn't need to be transported from different parts of the world, stored or packaged like food in a supermarket.

## How would you grow food in your garden to help support the environment?

[illegible]



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### Helping the planet

The Earth's climate is changing, which is creating more extreme weather conditions such as flooding, droughts and late frosts. This can have an enormous impact on life on Earth. Animals and plants find it harder to survive so we all need to work together to help make changes to support our planet.

How can plants reduce the impact of climate change?

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### Improving wellbeing

Gardens can make us feel calm and happy and can be a good place to get some quiet, take a breath or step away from anything that might be troubling us in our lives. Growing plants also helps us to feel more connected with the world around us.

How do plants make you feel? Share how you like to connect to nature.

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# Draw your design

Now you've had time to think about what you might like to see in a garden and what a garden can be used for, it's time to start putting those ideas together and create a design for your mini garden. Use the space here to draw your ideas either on your own or in a group.

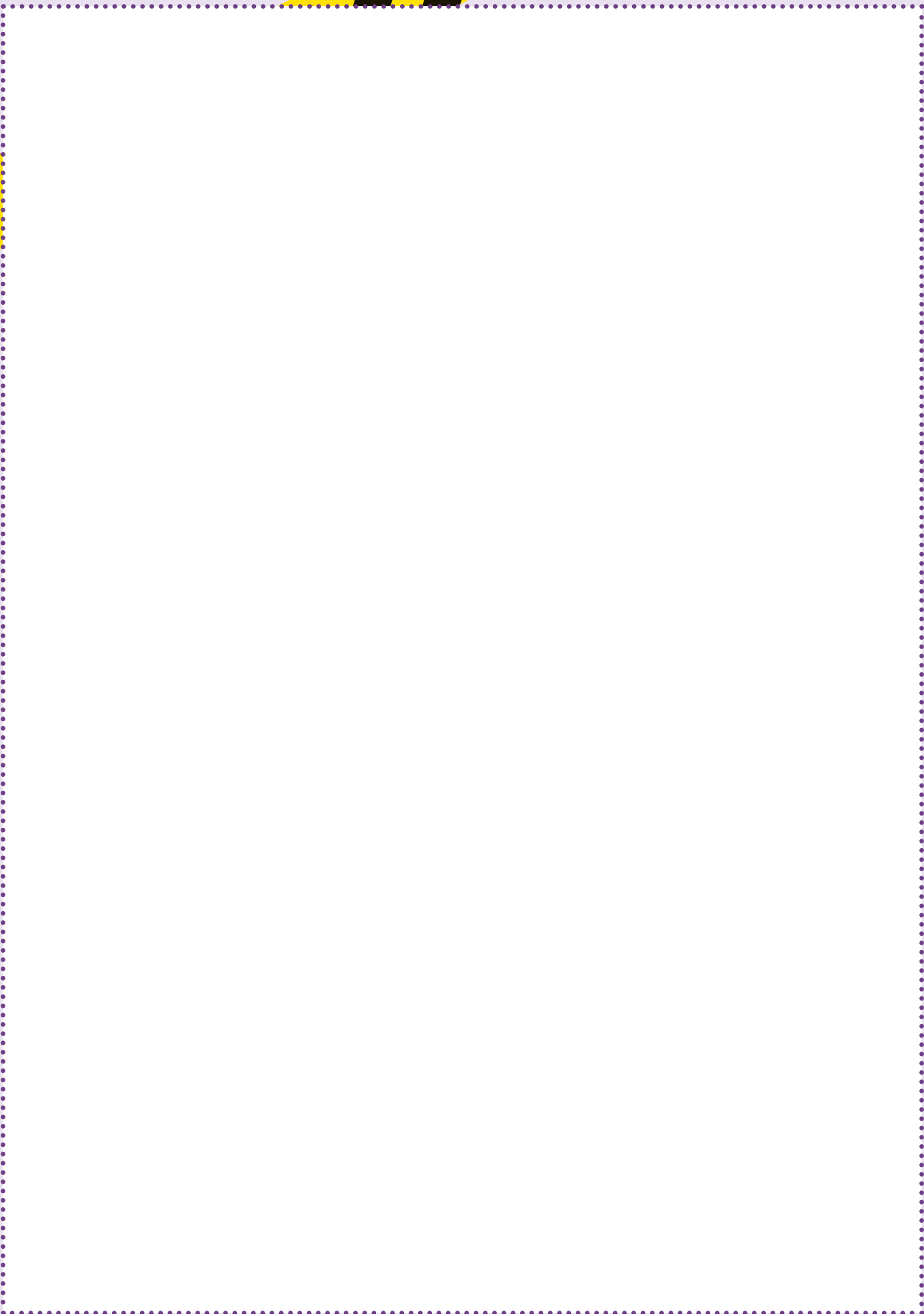


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- What plants will you use?
- Will there be space to play and explore?
- How will you get around the garden?

A large, empty rectangular area with a dotted purple border, intended for drawing a garden design.







Now you've created your sketches, it's time to choose your final design and make it into a mini container garden.

## Make your mini container garden!

You could do this as a group or you could create individual gardens and have a competition to select which one you'd like to enter into our national competition, as only one garden per school can be entered.



### To make your mini garden you will need:

- A recycled container – you can be really creative here! You could pick something like a seed tray, fruit punnet or mushroom tray, or even an old crate, storage box or kitchen sink...
- Peat free compost
- Plug plants, cuttings and/or seeds of your choice that fit your theme – we have also supplied seeds for you to grow microgreens which can be used to represent grass!
- Natural materials such as moss, pine cones and twigs
- Items for extra structures or decoration such as modelling clay, bottle / jar lids, lollipop sticks, pebbles and gravel
- Miniature figures or toys that fit your theme



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## Step by step:

1

### Step 1

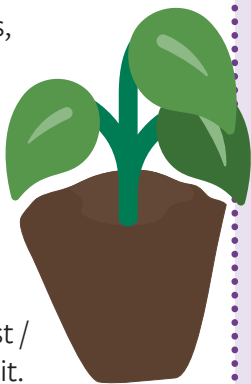
Fill your chosen container with compost and gently pat down.



2

### Step 2

Add in the plants starting with your bigger plants first. Make a hole slightly larger than the pot or plugs that the plant is in already. Place the plant in the hole and firm the compost / soil around the roots. For cuttings, use your finger to make a hole before placing the cutting in and firming the compost / soil around it.



3

### Step 3

Sow any seed directly into the compost or soil. Sprinkle a thin layer of compost or soil over the top of the seeds.



4

### Step 4

Give everything a good water before you carry on. Use a fine spray to avoid upsetting any seeds or small cuttings.



5

### Step 5

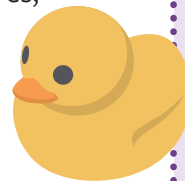
Add in any structures e.g. gravel paths, pebble stepping stones, lollipop stick houses, twig fences, bridges or dens. Lids from bottles and jars make great mini ponds or lakes.



6

### Step 6

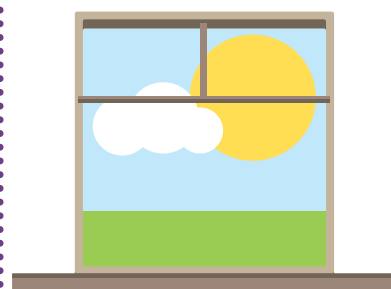
Add the finishing touches such as clay figures, toys or signs to bring the theme to life.



7

### Step 7

Place the garden outside in a warm place or on a bright windowsill.



8

### Step 8

Keep any mini plants and seeds watered so they don't dry out.



## Enter our competition

Send us a photo of your mini garden for a chance to win £1,000 of National Gardening Gift Vouchers for your school to help you start bringing your ideas to life!

You can enter one garden for your school and your teacher has all the information needed to enter. *Good luck!*



## Wordsearch



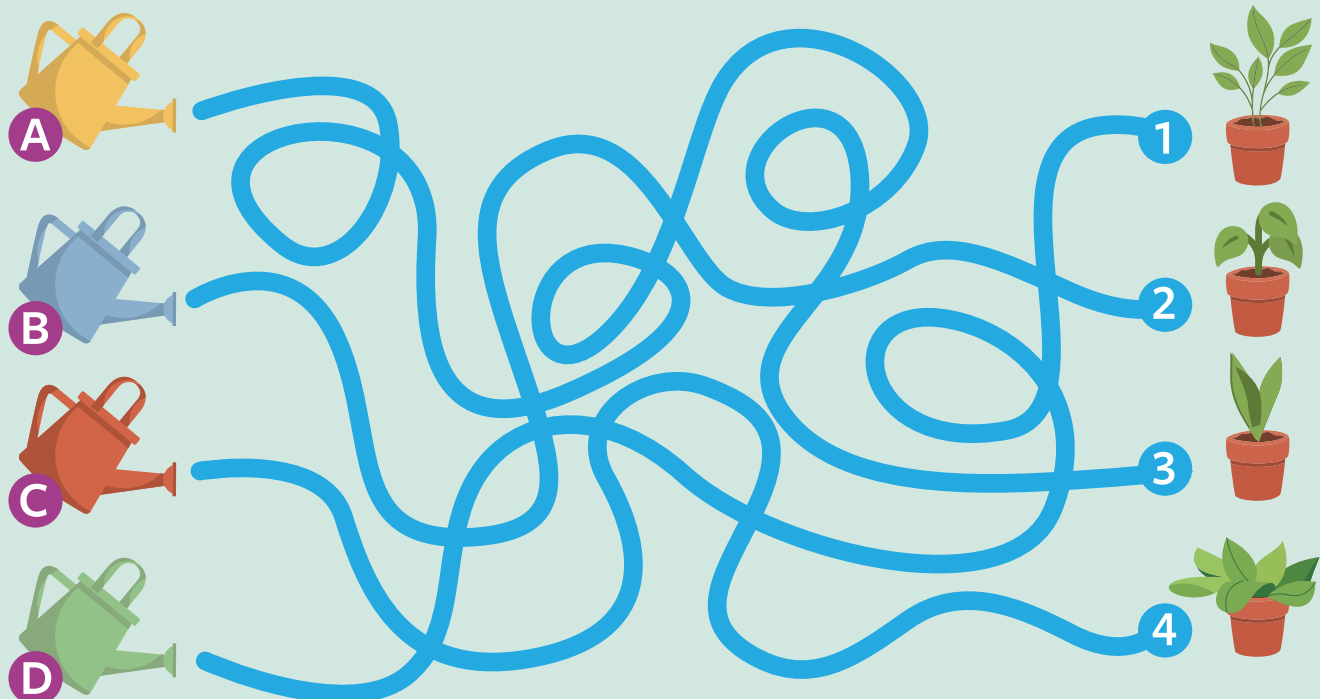
- ☐ COMPOST
- ☐ DESIGN
- ☐ GARDEN
- ☐ GROWING
- ☐ PLANTS
- ☐ POLLINATOR
- ☐ POND
- ☐ PRUNING
- ☐ SHRUBS
- ☐ SOWING
- ☐ VEGETABLES
- ☐ WATER
- ☐ WEEDING
- ☐ WELLBEING
- ☐ WILDLIFE

### Only joking!

Why couldn't the gardeners  
complete their herb garden?

They just couldn't find the thyme.

Which watering can is watering which plant?





A large, complex maze with a worker at the entrance and a wheelbarrow at the exit. The maze is composed of white walls on a teal background. A worker in an orange shirt and blue overalls stands at the entrance on the left. A purple wheelbarrow is at the exit on the right.

[illegible]





[schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk](https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk)



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