

Secret Garden

[twinkl.com/imagine/gardens](https://www.twinkl.com/imagine/gardens)

Think



- Where is this?
- What is on this side of the gate?
- What is on the other side of the gate?
- Who owns this garden?



Respond



You are staying at an elderly relative's house for the weekend and have never stayed there before. In the garden, you discover a mysterious gate in the wall. You open it very slowly...

Solve



You are building a walled garden. The wall must be a specific height. If you have enough bricks to build a 40-metre-long wall, what is the maximum area of land you can enclose?

Discuss



What are secrets? Is it good to keep secrets? Can keeping a secret sometimes be harmful to you or another person? What kind of secrets are good? Would it be a good or bad thing to tell someone they are having a surprise party planned for them? How do we know which secrets to share and which to keep? Have you ever had a secret? Have you ever shared someone else's secret?

Reimagine



Draw what is on the other side of this garden gate. Will it be a pleasant surprise, or something more sinister?

Discover



Fact: The book *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett was first published in 1911 and tells the story of a young girl who moves to Yorkshire after losing her parents in India. Her life changes, as does the life of the cousin she meets that she doesn't initially know is living in the same house.

Question: Who was Frances Hodgson Burnett? When was she born? Where did she live? Did she write any other children's books? What can you find out about the author and her life? Write a short biography and present what you have found out.

Gnomes

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Think



- What is happening in the photo?
- What are these gnomes saying to each other?
- Where are they?
- What are they looking at?



Solve



Susan collects gnomes and has 12 in her garden. Each year, she is bought a gnome by each of her three aunts for Christmas, Easter and her birthday. How many gnomes will Susan have in five years' time?

Respond



Write a newspaper report about the strange happenings in a town where all the gnomes suddenly disappear one night. Where have they gone?

Reimagine



Design a gnome of your own. What will they look like? Will it be male or female? Will it be your favourite pop star or actor? What will they be doing? Have a look at some traditional gnomes for inspiration.

Discuss



The name gnome stems from the Latin, *gnomus*, meaning 'earth-dweller'. It has appeared in literature for centuries and is generally regarded as the opposite of a fairy and associated with goblins, elves and red-caps.

Do garden gnomes deserve this label? Are they harmless, fun characters or are they actually unpleasant characters? Are gnomes sinister or funny? Have a class debate to find out.

Discover



Fact: Sir Charles Isham, who introduced gnomes into England, was a spiritualist vegetarian with a firm belief in gnomes as real beings. His rockery, at Lamport Hall, Northampton, had over 100 gnomes.

Question: What else can you discover about people's fascination with gnomes? When and where did the idea come from? Are there any unusual gnome records? Are there any organisations that protect the rights of gnomes? Why are gnomes found in gardens all over the world?

Vegetables

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Think



- What vegetables grow here?
- Which vegetables would you plant?
- What might live here?
- What are the downsides of growing your own vegetables?



Solve



Charlie's garden is 58m long and 20m wide. He wants to turn exactly half of it into a vegetable plot. Can you work out the area and perimeter of the vegetable plot?

How many ways can he do this?

Respond



Write a letter to your local council asking for an allotment and explain your reasons for wanting to grow what you have described. For an added twist, try writing it in rhyme!

Discuss



Do you need a large plot of land to grow your own vegetables? Can it be achieved in a small area? Should we all grow our own vegetables? Why? Is it too much bother for some people? Can you grow lettuce and tomatoes in window boxes just as well as on a large allotment? What are the benefits of growing your own vegetables?

Discover



Fact: There has been a lot of research into the benefits of growing your own vegetables: the exercise, lack of harmful chemicals in food, the way it promotes patience while waiting for your produce to grow and growing what you want to eat are just a few of them.

Question: Design a poster to encourage children to grow their own vegetables. How will you encourage them to grow vegetables, even in window boxes and pots? How can it be made more appealing to the most reluctant of child gardeners?

Reimagine



Paint a self-portrait inspired by the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo who, in the 16th century, painted portraits of people made from fruit and vegetables. Which fruit will you use and why?