

# APRIL

## Let's Grow Together



### LESSON PLAN #2

Welcome to the second lesson of the Junior Garden Club!

This month we will learn how to plant and take care of kale and zucchini seeds indoors. We will also learn important planting definitions.



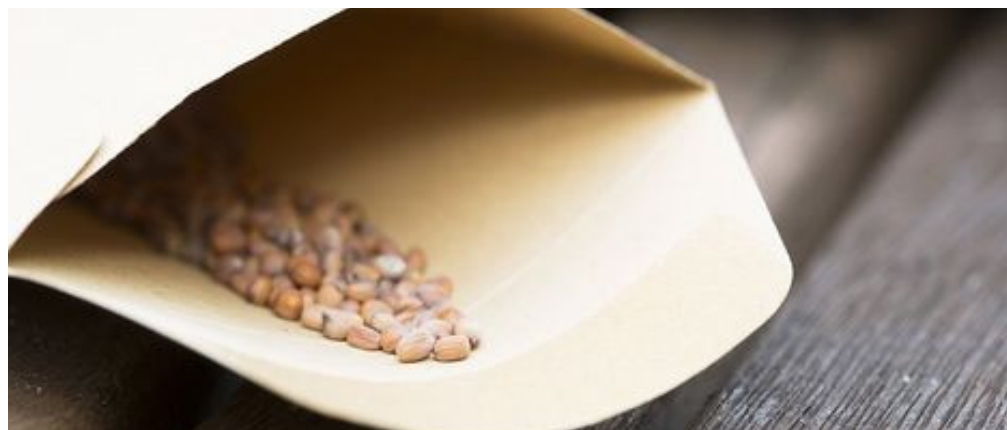
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### Check Your Seedlings

Did you plant tomatoes and sweet peppers last month? What do they look like now? They should be starting to sprout! Take a picture of your seedlings and send it in to be featured on our social media!

Make sure to continue to mist your tomato and sweet pepper seedlings. Seedlings love sunlight, so keep them in a sunny area.

If you missed last month's gardening lesson, it is not too late to start! Download the March lesson plan and start your own tomato and sweet pepper seedlings today. If you do not want to plant tomatoes and sweet peppers, start with kale and zucchini this month!



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## What you will need to start your April seedlings:

- Kale seeds of choice
- Zucchini seeds of choice
- Containers such as yogurt cups, milk cartons, paper cups, or a seed planting tray
- Seed-starting pot mix or peat pellets
- A spray bottle to mist the soil
- An area with lots of sunlight



## Prepare your seedlings

1. Choose your seeds! Read the packages to determine “planting depth,” “seed spacing,” “thinning,” and “days to harvest.” Review the March lesson plan for how to read the seed package.
2. Find a container to grow your seedlings in. You can try using yogurt cups or milk cartons. Make sure to poke holes in the bottom to allow the water to drain. Don’t make the holes too big or the soil will fall out. There are also seed-planting trays that are made especially for seed starting.
3. Next, fill your container with soil. Use a seed-starting potting mix. Do not reuse old soil or soil from outside! Peat pellets are also great for starting your seeds.
4. Add your seeds! Remember to look at the package first to see how deep they need to be buried under the soil.
5. Wet the soil with a mister or a small watering can. As the seeds grow you should continue to keep the soil moist, but not soggy. If you keep the soil too wet the seeds will rot.
6. Find a sunny spot to put your seeds in. Your seedlings will need a lot of sunlight to grow. Rotate them to keep them from leaning into the sun.



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## Planting Terminology:

**Thinning** – Removing plants that are growing too close together. Doing this will give the plants more room to grow.



**Bolting** – When plants grow too quickly. If the ground temperature goes above a certain temperature, the plants may quickly start producing flowers and seeds, abandoning edible leaf growth.



**Sowing** – Planting seeds directly into the soil.

**Microgreens** – Vegetable greens that are harvested when they are very young. They are usually about 1 inch long and are very nutritious.



**Weeding** – Removing unwanted plants.



**Pruning** – Removing unwanted parts of the plant.



**Germinate** – When a plant begins to grow from a seed.



**Sprout** – A new, small growth on a plant.



Find more information on our Junior Garden Club [HERE](#).



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