

# **VELCOME TO THE GARDEN!**

A mouse skips about the garden. "Peep! Peep!" it calls merrily to the garden gnome, who stands by a rose bed in the corner, watching nature change through spring, summer, autumn and winter. And what he sees is amazing!



In March, when spring begins and the days again get longer, everything in the garden comes to life. Daffodils bloom in the flower beds, butterflies awake from their winter sleep, baby moles are born, and tadpoles hatch in the pond.

If you sit down in the grass in summer, you'll see spiders stretching their webs from plant to plant, and ladybirds liberating plants from the clutches of thirsty aphids.

Mouse

The autumn garden is flooded with yellows and oranges, and the fruit of the apple tree ripens. Squirrels come from the woods for the tasty nuts of the hazel bush. Maybe you'll spot one!

Worm

Squirrel

**S** o it is in the garden every year, as spring, summer, autumn and winter alternate. Each of the seasons brings something special and new.

Blackbird

CROAK! CROAK!

YUMMY! SMACK!

LET'S GO!

LOOK AT YOU!

Chestnut

In winter the flower and vegetable beds are empty; nothing grows or blooms in them. The garden is covered in snow, and many animals are asleep in their hideaways.

Bird

Why don't you observe life in the garden? Learn to identify the flowers. Discover how spiders weave their webs. Plant some pea seeds and make your own bird feeder. In short, experience a year in the garden!

Dandelions



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At first it always looks as though winter is determined to last, well, forever. But then - lo and behold! - there is ever more light and warmth. Fresh plants sprout in the soil, fruit trees blossom and the first butterflies stir in the grass. Spring is here - hurray!

**CPRING** 



How delightful! The tulips and daffodils are emerging from the ground and gradually coming into bloom, and they smell lovely. The **swallows** are returning from Africa, building their nests and chirping merrily. The grass is turning green, and everything is sprouting and growing. The first day of spring is **20 March**.



## Bees

••••••• Bees pollinate up to a million flowers a day, so it's no wonder we describe them as hard-working. They like dandelions, sunflowers. fruit trees and shrubs.

### Tulips and daffodils

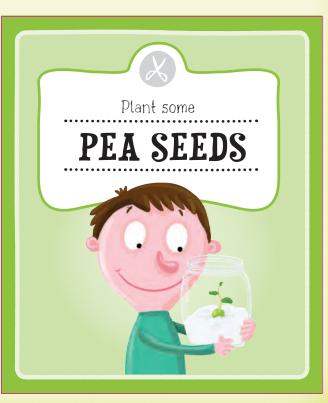
That's pretty, thinks the garden gnome, on spotting a red tulip in the flowerbed. Tulips and daffodils are among the most beautiful spring flowers.



## Tulips and daffodils grow

### Swallows -

Can you hear them chirping merrily? Swallows return from their wintering place in March, flying swiftly and deftly. Now they're very busy building their nests, so don't disturb them!





Buzz! Buzz! The first insects are swarming around the garden. Millipedes, beetles and **butterflies** awaken from their winter sleep, numb with cold. When it's not **raining**, they sun themselves. "April weather is so difficult to understand!" complains the small tortoiseshell butterfly.



It's pink, delicate and fragrant. What can it be? Apple blossom, of course! Apricot blossom, on the other hand, is as white as snow. The flowers give great pleasure to the bees that pollinate them.



## Mole

•••••• Baby moles are born underground, in the second half of April. At first they are as pink as human babies - their smooth fur grows later. Moles spend most of their life underground, where they use their shovelshaped paws to dig one tunnel after another!

OH NO. SPRING AGAIN.

# av

Woo-hoo! The flowers are out! It smells lovely. And the birds in the garden - the chaffinch, the goldfinch, the blackbird, the thrush, the nightingale and the warbler are all chirping at the same time, as if trying to outsing each other.

### Garden dormouse

In May the dormouse awakens, and it goes straight into action in the garden, building its nest from twigs, grass and leaves. In September it goes back to its deep, deep sleep.

## Small tortoiseshell

They're as beautiful and mysterious as fairies! The moment it begins to get warmer they spread their wings, and suddenly the garden is full of butterflies. They feed on the sweet nectar of flowers, so they move from plant to plant.



## How do insects wake themselves up?

In order to keep warm, millipedes run about the leaves like crazy. Beetles and butterflies parade about. Ants. meanwhile, warm themselves in the sun, storing the heat in their bodies so that they can warm up the anthill.



Dormice awaker

# Birds chirping merril.

## Nightingale

Long live the master of song! Few birds can match the nightingale's night-time twittering. Its brown and reddish plumage, however, is unremarkable; in the garden you're more likely to hear it than see it.

#### Dandelions .....

These little suns attract bees and butterflies. So many of them grow in the garden that we're happy to pick them and make wreaths out of them.



### Briar rose

"She pricked her finger on a spindle and fell asleep for a hundred years." Everyone knows the fairy tale about Sleeping Beauty, sometimes known as Briar Rose. The famous princess of the story is named after a rose that would be the pride of any garden.

Dandelions grow

#### Frog

Look! Amphibian tadpoles have hatched in the garden pond! Before long they will have grown into small frogs. Splash!

