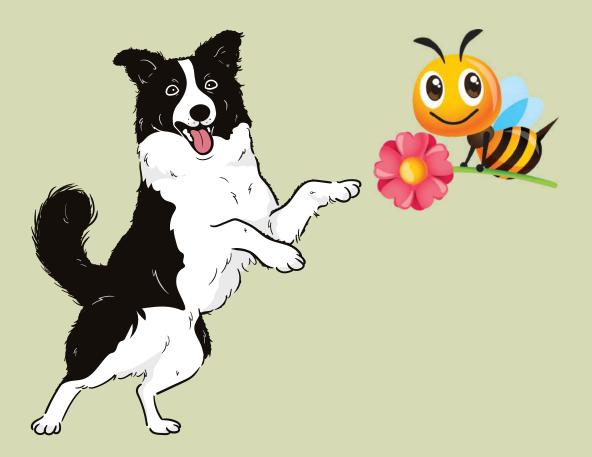
### Grampa Greenhouse and friends grow...



# WILDFLOWERS

Hi, our names are Beetrice & Wilf. We help Grampa Greenhouse grow all kinds of fun plants, fruit & vegetables.



Today we are helping him to grow wildflowers do you want to learn with us?

## Let's get growing...

#### Fun fact before we start:

Wildflowers provide lots of the essentials that bees need to thrive; food in the form of nectar and pollen, as well places to shelter and rest. So if you ever see a bee sitting very still on a flower, it could be having a little nap.

#### What you'll need

Planting wildflower seeds in the garden

- Wildflower seeds
- Watering can

Planting wildflowers in containers/pots

- Wildflowers seeds
- Pots or containers
- Compost
- Watering can

#### Time to start growing

To attract the most butterflies to your garden Grampa Greenhouse says the best time to sow seeds is mid-May, as the majority of butterflies appear 60 to 80 days later. But you can also plant them in early-September.

#### Wildflowers are for the Bees & Butterflies

#### Planting wildflowers in your lawn

Sowing wildflower seeds on your existing lawn is simple. Simply scatter your seeds on the lawn, we recommend mixing your seeds with sand to make sure seeds are spaced out equally, that way they don't compete with each other once they start growing.

#### Planting wildflowers in containers/pots

Let's try to grow wildflowers in a pot. First we have to ensure our pot has good drainage so that the soil doesn't become waterlogged, then place a layer of rocks and stones in the base. Mix together equal amounts of soil and compost. This helps ensure the growing medium isn't too rich for the wildflowers, which prefer nutrient-poorer soil.

Fill your pot 2/3 of the way with your soil/compost mixture. Now sprinkle your seeds thinly and evenly on the surface of the soil. Now, cover with a little more of your soil/compost mix, water well, being careful not to disrupt the seeds, and place your pot in a sunny spot and leave to grow.

TOP TIP: Use a varieties of wildflower seeds that flower at different speeds to make your meadow or pot last longer.

#### Planting wildflowers in your lawn

Now we have to look after our wildflower meadow – do you think we can together? Here's Grampa's tips –

- Keep your wildflowers watered regularly so they don't dry out, but don't over water!
- Watch out for slugs, snails and birds who might be after seeds and sprouts.
- Remove any weeds that might be taking over.

#### Grampa Greenhouse's Grammar

- Pollinate to take pollen from one plant or part of a plant to another so that new plant seeds can be produced.
- Pollinator bees, butterflies and other insects can be called pollinators because they pollinate plants and crops
- Wildflower plants which grow in the wild, so you could find them in woodlands, fields and other places.



#### Did you know?

Wildflowers are not only good for bees & butterflies but lots of other insects too! Pollinators such as bees, butterflies and other insects enjoy the pollen found in wildflowers as a source of food – it's almost as important to them as water is to us!

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By planting wildflowers we help bees to gain energy and pollinate other flowers, plants and crops. Crops are important as this is where our food comes from, so without the bees we wouldn't be able to have all the delicious fresh food we grow locally.

> 'So if you help bees like me, and my bee friends will help your crops'

#### Grampa's Garden Games

#### Wildflower Bingo



Name your very own wildflower...

Thanks for learning how to grow wildflowers with Grampa Greenhouse and us. We can't wait to see your garden buzzing with wildflowers.



# Be sure to share your growing projects with us on social media

Book series dedicated to Grampa Greenhouse on behalf of Tam Rodgers & Shareka