

20  
YEARS



Keep Scotland  
Beautiful

Your charity for Scotland's environment

# Pop-up Pocket Garden

A project to do at home



## Information and Guidance





# Why take part?



The Pop-up Pocket Garden provides a great opportunity for children and young people aged 3 - 18 years to design and grow a small garden. There are themes to inspire you and a design brief to guide practical building and growing. We are looking for exciting and unusual designs that use edible plants, plants that attract wildlife and will reuse something which would otherwise have been thrown away.

- This is a fun project that can be done at home in a small space outdoors or indoors on a windowsill.
- This project includes different sorts of activities from designing and planning to practical growing and construction. These different elements can be done by one individual or together with others from your household, perhaps as a whole family project.
- The project provides a flexible context for learning and fun that can fit your own situation.
- Taking part can contribute towards your Eco-School's Green Flag application. Just let us know which school you attend when you send us your photographs.
- The best Pop-up Pocket Gardens will be featured on the Keep Scotland Beautiful website to celebrate your ideas and skills and inspire others.



# Project details

## Suggested timescales:

These suggested timings are to help you to complete your Pop-up Pocket Garden in 12 weeks. You can do it faster or slower if you want.

- **Week 1:** Pick a spot in the garden or choose a windowsill for your Pop-up garden. Use the themes and design brief to help you create your design. Prepare the spot where your Pop-up garden will be, moving things if necessary to make space for your garden.
- **Week 2:** Get growing and gather any materials you'll need. Rummage in the back of cupboards or in a garage for things you can reuse.
- **Week 3 – 12:** Continue to grow and build your garden. Record this process in photographs. To have a chance of your design and garden appearing on our website, email images of your design, your finished garden as well as images that tell your garden story.
- **June 30th:** Deadline to send your images. Full details of how to send them are in the box below.

Your images must be sent electronically to [oneplanetpicnic@keepsotlandbeautiful.org](mailto:oneplanetpicnic@keepsotlandbeautiful.org) by 30th June 2020. Make sure that they are a high resolution, saved or scanned as the largest file size possible to allow good quality, clear images. Remember to share your garden on social media [#PopupGarden](https://twitter.com/PopupGarden).

The best images will be displayed on the Keep Scotland Beautiful website to celebrate your creativity and skills.

## Guidelines and advice:

- Garden for Life Forum organisations can provide you with lots of useful information and advice to help you. Visit [www.gardenforlife.org.uk](http://www.gardenforlife.org.uk) for some great resources and helpful links. There may also be local expertise and advice available from an [It's Your Neighbourhood](#) or [Beautiful Scotland](#) group near to you.
- Materials used (e.g. compost etc.) should be sustainably sourced / manufactured. Please use peat free compost and locally sourced materials where possible.
- We encourage you to use plants, seeds and materials that you may already have at home. If necessary, remember that seeds etc. can be bought online.
- Where plant materials are being used, these should not be collected from the wild and must not contravene any laws. F1 hybrids should not be used.
- When you want return your Pop-up garden site to being just a windowsill or other part of a garden, find a good way to reuse the plants and materials e.g. replanting elsewhere or perhaps create a permanent home for your garden.

In partnership with:



# Design brief

The garden must be built on the five principles below and include food plants for people and be good for wildlife.

The two interlinked themes are: the 2020 Year of Coasts and Waters, and Keep Scotland Beautiful's 20th birthday.

The five principles are:

| Principle         | Example   |
|-------------------|---|
| Locally sourced   | Use as many native plants as you can. Native plants are ones that have occurred naturally here since the last Ice Age. Lots of wildlife here can use them for food and shelter. |
| Seasonal          | Your garden should be looking its best in June. Think about plants that will be in flower or leaf then.   |
| Waste reduction   | Reuse containers, recycle building materials, use compost etc.  |
| Organic           | This is a garden for people and other creatures and includes things to eat. Don't use pesticides, fungicides etc.   |
| Ethically sourced | The garden should be peat free. Any composts and mulches should ideally be locally made from recycled materials and plant matter.   |

**Size:** Your Pop-up Pocket garden can be any shape you want but it should fit within a footprint of 120cm x 100cm. A smaller option of making your garden in a container is fine too, and it can be any container you want. You can re-use any material to create the garden. Play with some available construction materials, e.g. placing them upside down or onto a side to give you ideas. You can introduce some height through construction or plants but should be no higher than two metres.

**Scale:** Your design should be to the scale of the plants used. This will help you think about how your plants and structures will fit together. Keep the design simple but imaginative.

**Plant choice:** Try to include edible plants for people, as well as plants that are good for wildlife. It's great to have something home-grown to look forward to tasting. Choose plants that you would find growing together, for example do not put pond plants next to plants that prefer somewhere drier. Choose plants that thrive in Scotland and play with colour, leaf size, shape and plant heights.

**Anchoring:** Make sure that all the elements of your garden are secure. If it is outside, how will it survive any wind and rain? If it is on a windowsill will it fit and be well balanced?

**Construction:** Think about all the elements you will need and how they will fit together, and how you can disguise or cover the framework (base, pots or containers etc.) of your garden.



View previous years designs for inspiration: [www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/pocketgarden](http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/pocketgarden)



# 2020 themes



## Year of Coasts and Waters 2020

Water is everywhere in Scotland. It is part of our everyday lives, our history and our culture. You might enjoy water sports; a loony dook, a walk on a beach, surfing or fishing. You may have heard stories of mythical water creatures such as the selkies, the kelpies or the stoorworm and there's plenty of real wildlife that lives by the coast and in water. There are breath-taking natural features like Fingal's cave, waterfalls or the Corryvreckan whirlpool.

Water is part of our working and industrial heritage from the fishing fleet to the canal transport network, aqueducts, bridges, and the power generated by water mills and modern hydro-electric systems. We rely on clean coasts and water as a source of delicious food; salmon, trout, mussels and mackerel. Water links the natural world to the heart of our cities, flowing from Loch Katrine to kitchen taps in Glasgow, and from the kitchen sink plug hole back to the river.

What is the story of the coast and water near you?

# 20 YEARS

## Keep Scotland Beautiful's 20th birthday

It's our 20th birthday in 2020! How could you include the number 20 or the Keep Scotland Beautiful logo into your garden? It can be subtle or obvious! Include plants in your garden that will continue to grow in your school grounds, keeping Scotland beautiful for the next 20 years. You could consider tree saplings, perennial vegetables such as rhubarb or other long-lived plants.



We support the Sustainable Development Goals.

Keep Scotland Beautiful is the charity that provides education initiatives for children, young people and educators which focus on environmental issues to improve understanding and encourage positive action. It's part of our work to make Scotland clean, green and sustainable.



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