

## **BBC Gardeners' World Live 2020 Useful Planters Competition – Early Year Foundation Stages**

After the success of our **BBC Gardeners' World Live Teapot Plantpot** competition in 2019, we're thrilled to launch the 2020 competition, with some fresh new elements.

The "Useful Planters" competition is a gardening competition for Early Years nurseries, pre-school settings and reception classes and is devised to complement the EYFS Statutory framework.

The task involves the children sourcing a reliable vessel to use as a planter as well as selecting the plants they would like to grow in it. The idea being that the vessel selected relates to the use of the plant they are growing (see below for examples).

This competition is restricted to **Midlands, UK** only.

If you are entering the Wheelbarrow Competition, then your Useful Planter will be **collected at the same time as your barrow**. If you are not entering the Wheelbarrow competition then please drop your planter at **Winterbourne House** by **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**N.B There is a separate application form for the Schools Wheelbarrow Competition**

### **Key dates:**

- **28<sup>th</sup> February 2020** - Application deadline, please return all applications to [lucy.tremlett@riverstreetevents.co.uk](mailto:lucy.tremlett@riverstreetevents.co.uk)
- **15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**– Please deliver your planters to Winterbourne House and Gardens, the address is: **58 Edgbaston Park Rd, Birmingham B15 2RT**. They will then be collected and delivered to the show.

If you are entering the Wheelbarrow competition as well then, we will collect your planters from your school, at the same time as the barrow

- **18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2020** – Show open days

## Useful Planters Competition – Early Year Foundation Stage

The Useful Planters Competition is our revamped Teapot competition at BBC Gardeners' World Live and is a gardening competition for Early Years nurseries, pre-school settings and reception classes. It runs alongside the popular annual Schools' Wheelbarrow competition which invites local infants, junior and senior schools to participate. It is also extended this year to *Health for Life* nursery schools (see separate information sheet).

This competition is a simple and fun gardening activity devised to complement the EYFS Statutory Framework. As well as the planting activity, the children will need to nurture and care for their plants for them to grow and thrive in their containers.

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### THE TASK

As individuals, or groups, the children should source a container which could work as a vessel to plant in i.e. without cracks or holes. The children will then need to select a plant to grow in their container, with support and ideas from their EYFS leader and/or family members (see below for planting ideas). The idea then is to relate the planter to the use of the plant, for example if you are growing peppermint or chamomile (plants you might use in a tea) you may plant them in a teapot, if basil or rosemary (plants you might cook with) you may choose to grow them in a saucepan. It would be good if in your application you can give us a brief paragraph on why you have chosen your specific container and how it relates to the use of the plants. This can be broad, and we are excited to see the ideas you have!

With the plant potted up in the planter, the children will need to take care of them, ensuring they have enough water and light to grow. Unlike regular containers, the planter may not have drainage holes - a good rule of thumb is to stick your finger a couple of centimetres into the surface of the compost and, if it feels dry, it's time to water. Plants dislike being waterlogged just as much as being thirsty, so remember to check frequently, adding just a little water at a time.



## FITTING IN WITH THE EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE

We have designed the activity in the hope that it provides opportunities for our young participants to engage in the Characteristics of Effective Learning, as well as working with the EYFS framework – Understanding the world (People and Communities), Physical development (Health and self-care, Moving and handling), Communication and language (Listening and attention, Following instructions), Maths (Shape, space and measurement), Expressive arts and design (being imaginative).

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## APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMINGS

### Applications

Complete and return the application form to [Lucy.Tremlett@riverstreetevents.co.uk](mailto:Lucy.Tremlett@riverstreetevents.co.uk) by **28<sup>th</sup> February 2020** to confirm participation.

### Submissions

The growing and potting will need to take place so that your plants are in full bloom for the Show (18<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> June 2020). All settings entering the competition will receive two pairs of Show tickets (valid any one day except Saturday) which could be used for a preschool/nursery if desired.

Remember if you are entering your planter to the show then please drop this at Winterbourne House and Gardens by **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**. If you are taking part in the Schools Wheelbarrow competition as well then your planter will be collected at the same time as your barrow.

### Assessment

A separate outline/list of assessment criteria will be shared with the school's representatives once the application is received. The planters at the show will be assessed by Horticultural Experts, Saul Walker and Lucy Chamberlain.

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## THE RESULTS

The Useful Planters will be displayed in the Floral Marquee at BBC Gardeners' World Live 2020. The EYFS team representative winning first and second prizes will be invited to the Show on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June to receive their prize. (It can alternatively be delivered after the Show).

**FIRST PRIZE** = A Niwaki Spade and BBC Gardeners' World Live Goody Bag

**SECOND PRIZE** = A BBC Gardeners' World Live Goody Bag

**ALL SETTINGS THAT TAKE PART** = A certificate plus two pairs of tickets to BBC Gardeners' World Live 2020 (valid any day except Saturday)



Please get in touch with any queries as we're here to help. Contact **Lucy Tremlett** on **0207 150 5130**.

**GOOD LUCK!! We hope you enjoy growing together.**

## PLANT IDEAS

- Something like rosemary or other herbs used in the kitchen may be grown in an old square bread bin or a pestle and mortar
- If an edible theme is chosen, then perhaps an alpine strawberry with some creeping thyme could be planted in a terracotta pot or a colander
- Fleshy-leaved rosette forming plants such succulents could be planted in something relating to the home, for example a jam jar

Please remember that this theme is very broad, and when trying to link the plants to the container we are here to help!

Plants do grow, so remember to choose plants that won't ultimately become too large for your planter!



*House leeks*



*Pelargonium*



*Basil*



*Coloured Daisy*



*Heartsease*



*Succulent*

