

MAY 2019



## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

### Zinnia's Flower Garden

By Monica Wellington

Springtime is here, and Zinnia can't wait to plant her seeds and watch them grow. She carefully takes care of her garden, watering her plants, weeding, and waiting patiently for something to sprout. And soon enough, the first seedlings appear! With art just as colorful as a garden in bloom, young readers will enjoy watching Zinnia's beautiful garden grow, and may even be inspired to start one of their own.



[Click here to listen online](#)

#### Fun Facts:

- Mother's Day in May is one of the biggest holidays for cut flowers, as well as Valentine's in February, but did you know that Christmas and Hanukkah actually top the list in sales? Easter and Passover are popular as well.
- Flower farmers can only provide in-season blooms, but thanks to Georgia's climate, the season can stretch from late winter all the way through fall. The blooms that do best here are acclimated to both heat and humidity.
- According to the University of Georgia Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development, greenhouses are the No. 7 commodity by value in Georgia at \$444 million.
- Ornamental horticulture is ranked the No. 4 commodity group in Georgia. It contributes 10.1 billion dollars and 66,900 jobs to the Georgia economy!

#### Videos:

- [AgVenture: Arena Acres in Houston County](#)
- [Farm Monitor: McCorkle Nursery Gives a Glimpse into the Future](#)
- [Growing Zinnia Flower from Seed - 75 Days Time Lapse](#)
- [Blippi Visits a Greenhouse](#)

#### Activities:

- Lessons: [Desktop Green House](#) | [Fabulous Flowers](#) | [Flower Power](#) | [Sunflower Life Cycles](#) | [Read a Seed Packet](#)
- Plant a pollinator garden! [Raised Bed Resource Guide](#) | [Video: Create a pollinator garden using planters](#)
  - Include [native milkweed](#) and [host plants for butterflies](#).
- [Register](#) a pollinator garden on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail-free to do!
- Citizen Scientist Activity: In August participate in the [Great Southeast Pollinator Census](#)
- [Plant flower seeds in milk cartons. Then put seed observation wrapper around the carton.](#)
- [Seed Journal](#)
- [Make seed balls using flour](#)
- [Garden Trail Mix \(Trail mix has items that represent all the things needed for a successful flower garden.\)](#)
- [Garden Color Page](#) | [Garden Bookmark](#)



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