

Whose Garden Is It?

by Mary Ann Hoberman

While taking a walk, Mrs. McGee wonders who owns a beautiful garden. She receives many different answers about who actually owns the garden.



R.E.D. Zone

Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, **have you ever planted a garden?** Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder who owns the garden?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in Whose Garden Is It?

- wending: taking your time to walk somewhere
- splendid: very nice
- exquisite: very pretty
- first-rate: the best
- grumbled: complained
- dine: eat
- gobble: eat quickly and selfishly
- twittered: a bird chirp
- feast: a meal with a lot of food
- furrows: long narrow ditches to plant seeds in
- burrows: long tunnels in the ground created by animals
- murmuring: the quiet sound of many people talking
- pandering: giving someone what they want

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What does the garden look like?
- Why does the gardener say the garden is his?
- Who eats food from the garden?
- What color is the turtle’s umbrella?
- What is the girl rabbit wearing?
- What animals help the garden grow?
- In addition to the animals, what else claims the garden as their own?
- Who do you think owns the garden?

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Do

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Take your children on a walk outside. Ask them to describe the plants and animals they see. Here is a sample list of scavenger hunt items.

- bird nest
- dragonfly
- butterfly
- ladybug
- 3 different types of flowers
- seeds
- squirrels
- 2 different types of trees