



# Johnson's Garden Talk

Lawn and garden information for the friends and customers of Johnson's Garden Centers

## Johnson's Garden Talk

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### EAST STORE

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Wichita, KS 67203  
316-687-5451

### RIDGE ROAD STORE

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Wichita, KS 67212  
316-943-0494

### LANDSCAPE DESIGN & INSTALLATION NIGHTSCAPING

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### CORPORATE OFFICE

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## Gardening with Kids

Jan Decker, *Junior Gardeners' Club Coordinator*

Now that the outdoor garden is tucked away for the winter, it's time for some indoor gardening fun. One of the most satisfying and fun projects for kids of all ages is forcing flower bulbs. That's the process of "fooling" bulbs that normally flower in spring into thinking winter is over and it is time to flower. Bulb forcing is a fun activity and gives kids a sneak preview of what their spring garden will look like (if they planted bulbs in the ground this fall). Potted bulbs also make wonderful "I made it myself" gifts for grandparents.

The two easiest bulbs to force are paperwhite narcissus and amaryllis because they don't have to be chilled, as many bulbs do. Paperwhites make a great take-home project for groups, too, like a scout troop or a birthday party. All you need is some gravel, a bulb and water in a plastic cup.

Johnson's has everything you need to keep little hands busy and to challenge the more serious older child. Bulbs for forcing can be bought separately or in pre-packaged kits. We have how-to handouts in the store or check the "Lawn and Garden Library" section on our web site at [www.johnsonsgarden.com/library.html](http://www.johnsonsgarden.com/library.html) for complete instructions.