



Johnson's Garden Talk

Newsletter archives ... for the friends and customers of Johnson's Garden Centers

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February 2002



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Gardening with Kids

Jan Decker, Junior Gardeners' Club Coordinator

As I think back to my childhood, many of the memories involve being outdoors, playing or working. One of the chores assigned to the youngsters in our family was digging dandelions. Dad even notched the end out of an old table knife for each of us to have our own tool, hoping to increase productivity. I don't recall liking it very much.

But this past summer, my grandchildren and I created fun memories working in the yard pulling weeds. Together we looked for the biggest weeds and they were so proud of filling their buckets. (*Don't tell Marty that I neglected to use ferti•lome Weed-Out when I should have.*)

My own grandma was always busy in her yard. She had flowers all around the outside and dozens of pots of African violets filled the inside. Even though it wasn't said in words, the actions of the adults gave me a sense that maintaining a neat appearance of your yard and taking care of what you have is important.

What was it that sparked your interest in gardening? Do you remember a specific experience or person that nurtured your budding curiosity with nature and growing things? Was there a funny incident with your child in the garden? We always enjoy hearing from our readers so if you have a story or creative idea you'd like to share please email it to jan@johnsonsgarden.com (*or mail it to Johnson's Garden Center, 2707 W. 13th St. N., Wichita, KS 67203*). Be sure to include your name and phone number.

Maybe we can pass along a fresh idea, some encouragement or humor to other parents, grandparents, neighbors, teachers, and anyone trying to make a positive impression on a child's life! If we publish your story or creative idea, you'll receive a \$25 gift certificate from Johnson's!