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My Garden



Discover

Growing up my family has always loved flowers whether they were indoors or outside. My Grandmother was very proud to showcase flowers in her back garden and was always looking for new flowers to add to the collection. My Grandfather had an allotment and grew flowers there. He would pick flowers from there and would bring them back to the house where he would display them proudly knowing that he helped grow them. Flowers have been a big interest in my family for a long time, this helped inspire my Mum to change her garden and make it look more colourful and add a variety of flowers into her garden.



Explore

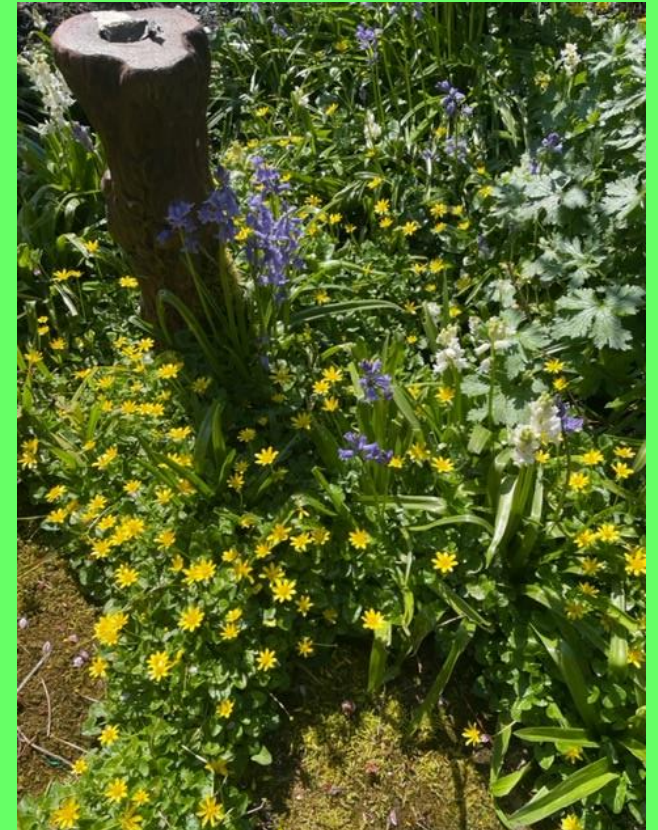
Located within my garden are lots of flowers. One of my Mum's favourite flowers is Daffodils. We have two that look very similar but are slightly different colours.

Daffodils can brighten up the garden as they represent the start of spring, and it helps show that everything is starting to regrow after winter.

Flowers are important as they encourage bees and wildlife into the garden. Flowers can help people feel better mentally as colour can make you happy and proud to show your garden off. Flowers are inexpensive as you do not have to replant them every year as you keep them in pots as they die back and go dormant until next summer.



The Beauty of Flowers

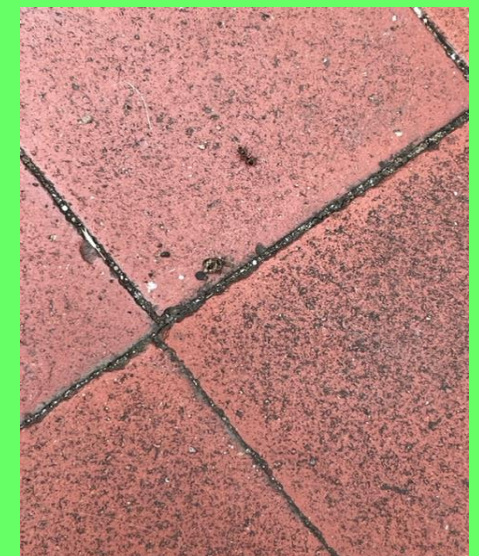


The Aroma and Colours



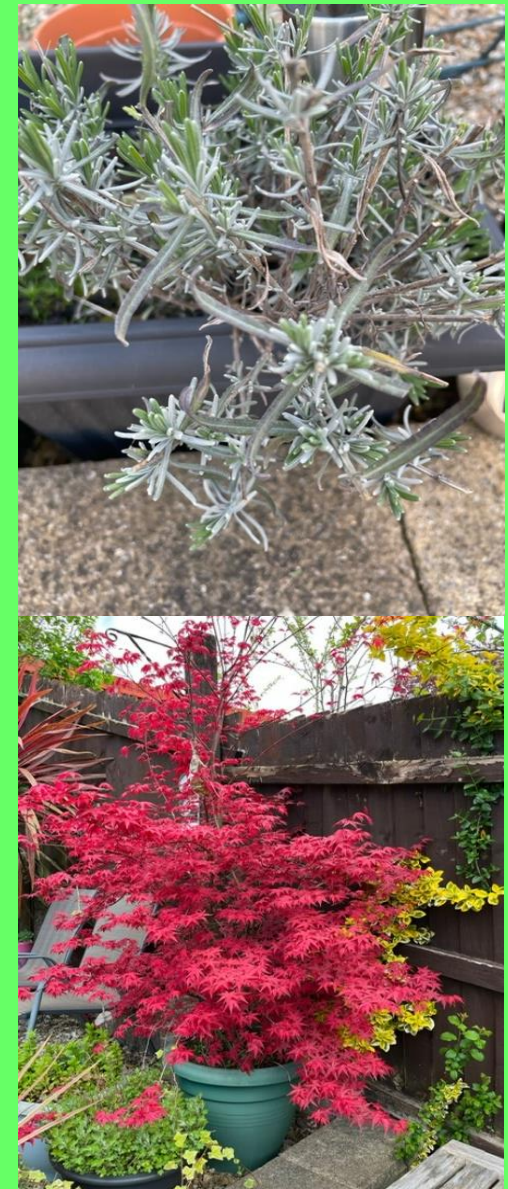
Nature

Taking part in the John Muir award has helped me to appreciate nature so much more. I have spent lots of time in my garden and seeing all the different insects that are living in their natural habitats is so beautiful. I have learnt to respect their habitats and it has made me more curious to see how they live and where. In my garden I have seen that ants like to go crawl on the concrete slabs and in dry mud patches.



Planting

Planting your own flowers is a great way to start creating your own garden and getting involved with flowers. It will help build a gardeners confidence knowing that they planted those flowers in the tubs. Planting flowers is a way to be creative, you get hands on using soil and learning how to preserve the flowers by using feed and watering them in the hotter seasons when natural rainwater is not as frequent. This is when flowers will require more water.



Conserve

Whilst undertaking the John Muir award it has allowed me to have a new appreciation of flowers and how they help to brighten up the outdoors and enhances the natural environment. It helped me to realise that looking after a garden is a lot of work and that you must make sure to water plants and flowers in the summer to keep them alive.

By planting flowers in the garden has helped bees to collect nectar and pollen. In return flowers cannot live without bees as without pollen flowers can not produce seeds. By planting flowers help bees to collect more pollen and keeps bees alive as they feed off nectar. By providing bees with flowers helps to preserve their natural habitats and helps nature to survive and flourish. It also encourages nature into my garden and makes it more natural for them to explore.

Birds

Our garden attracts lots of birds due to the fact that there is a tree in our next-door neighbour's garden that hangs over ours. There is also lots of places for them to feel safe such as landing on the shared fence and the garden furniture. There are bird feeders located in the trees to encourage birds and to make them feel safe in their natural habitats. This is useful for birds particularly in the winter season where the ground is too hard for them to hunt and feed naturally, for example trying to get worms from within the earth.



Some of My Favourite Flowers



Aubrieta



Muscari



A different
variation of an
Aubrieta

Weeds

A struggle that some gardeners come across is weeds. Dandelion's turn white and go to seed. The seed gets blown away by wind and lands in another part of earth resulting in them re-seeding and creating new dandelion weeds which are the yellow ones. To prevent weeds spreading a constant struggle gardeners face is weeding all the time. However, to help conserve plants it is best to leave dandelions. Lots of gardeners may be tempted to pull them up as they are weeds but to keep the garden more natural and in order to conserve plants you should leave them.



Reflection

I have enjoyed completing the John Muir award as it has helped me to see the beauty of the outdoor space. I have found myself going on walks and noticing more flowers and seeing hanging baskets displayed in town centres and being able to appreciate the beauty of these flowers and even identify some of them. Since the Covid-19 pandemic I have grown to love flowers a lot more, this is due to having to isolate and spending more time in the house and the garden. Last summer we had a heatwave which meant there was beautiful weather to sit outdoors in and be surrounded by all the flowers that had bloomed. It helped me to have a sense of pride in our garden and seeing all the amazing flowers that had grown and brightened up the garden.