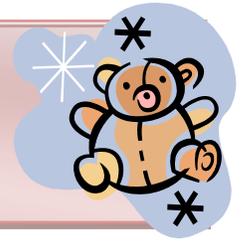# *B*e *E*xcited *A*bout *R*eading
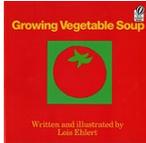# BEAR Book Activity
Family Learning Activities that Develop Readers Ready for School

Before Reading

Look at the cover of the book. What is the title of the book? What kind of vegetable is on the front? Where is the name of the author? Where does vegetable soup come from? What kinds of vegetables do you think are in the soup?

Read Together

Growing Vegetable Soup   Lois Ehlert

Let's grow vegetable soup! A father and child grow vegetables and then make them into a soup. It will be the best soup ever! How would you grow vegetable soup?

After Reading

Talking about Vegetables!

Read through the story with your child. Look over the first page with the tools and ask your child what are the tools shown on this page and what are they used for? As you go through the story, ask your child questions about each page, such as "Do you like to eat the things they are planting?"; "Can you guess why someone would label the seeds that are planted?"; "What vegetables do you see in the picture?"; "Why do people weed?"; "Where do vegetables come from?"

Pretending to be a Garden!

Draw and cut out pictures of the vegetables.

Read through the story with your child. Talk about what is happening on each page. Ask your child to act out the story and pretend some of the ideas below using the cutout pictures:

- To use the tools in the book.
- To plant seeds, then pretend to plant sprouts.
- To water the seeds and sprouts.
- To be a plant growing day by day.
- To be a blossom on a plant turning into squash or another vegetable.
- To weed the garden.
- To dig up potatoes or pick other vegetables.
- To wash vegetables and cut them up.
- To put vegetables in the pot to make soup and then pretend to it.

Share New Words
- Sprouts
- Soil
- Blossom
- Weed
- Clean

Look for These Books at Your Library
- *Eating the Alphabet* by Lois Ehlert
- *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert
- *Jack's Garden* by Henry Cole
- *Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf* by Lois Ehlert
- *One Duck Stuck* by Phyllis Root

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