

# Tips for creating a window box garden with your child



## Why are window boxes a good way to get a child interested in gardening?

- It's their own *special gardening space*. You can even paint it with designs or stencil their name on the box.
- It's a small, compact area that's in *proportion to their size* which they can relate to.
- *Easy to observe*—be sure to put it in an accessible location where they can see it everyday. They'll be able to watch it grow and change, while also learning to care for the plants and water their box.



## Valuable lessons children learn from gardening:

- *Respect for nature*—Early exposure often cultivates a love of gardening throughout their life, as well as interest/concern for nature and protecting the environment
- *Quality time with parents*—Working along side their parent in a project where the parent is teaching and they can ask questions
- *Connection to nature*—Food we eat doesn't originate at the grocery store, but is cultivated through human care and nurturing of plants
- *Patience*—Learning to wait for seeds to sprout
- *Not always in control*—Nature is unpredictable and cannot be controlled
- *Science & Math skills*—Calculating costs of plants and materials or how much they saved by growing instead of buying; Learning difference species of plants; have them press the flowers and keep a journal of what they learn from year to year



## Choosing the correct plants: *(see attached diagram with plant suggestions)*

- Choose sturdy plants that can take abuse, not too fragile—kids like to be free touch & feel plants
- Children are attracted to bold colors and plants that attract nature
- They love to learn and watch things grow—add some seeds they can sprinkle in to watch the complete growing process.

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# A window box planting recipe to enjoy with your child

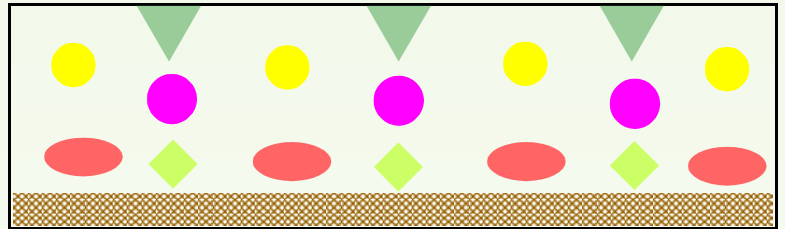
At Flower Framers, we are committed to our customers having a delightful window box gardening experience. This planting recipe, named "Candy Jar," was developed by our staff Horticulturist especially for children.







We recommend starting your child's window box gardening project with our 2 or 3 ft. size box. Our specially designed hardware is made to fit our boxes and will make it easy for you to install it in a place your child can tend to it daily. If under a window isn't a convenient place, we recommend simply placing it on a deck or patio where it will be used as a planter box instead and your child will have easier access to it.

Be sure to visit our Web site at [www.flowerframers.com](http://www.flowerframers.com) and click on the "Helpful Tips" page. Here you'll find additional help with our "Five Steps to a Beautiful Window Box" planting tips.

To order your window box planter, visit our Web site or call us directly at 1-800-315-1805.

## CANDY JAR



-  Red Supertunias (*Petunia hybrid*) —attracts butterflies & hummingbirds
-  Parasol (*Patriot Lantana*) —attracts butterflies
-  Lamb's Ear (*Stachys Lanata*) —cuddly soft like a real lamb's ear
-  Marigolds —good for bright color & educational too: kids can pull a few apart and save the seeds to plant next year
-  Sweet White Alyssum seeds (*Alyssum maritima procumbens*) —sprinkle in a seed packet
-  Innocence (*Nemesia fruticans*) —attracts hummingbirds

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