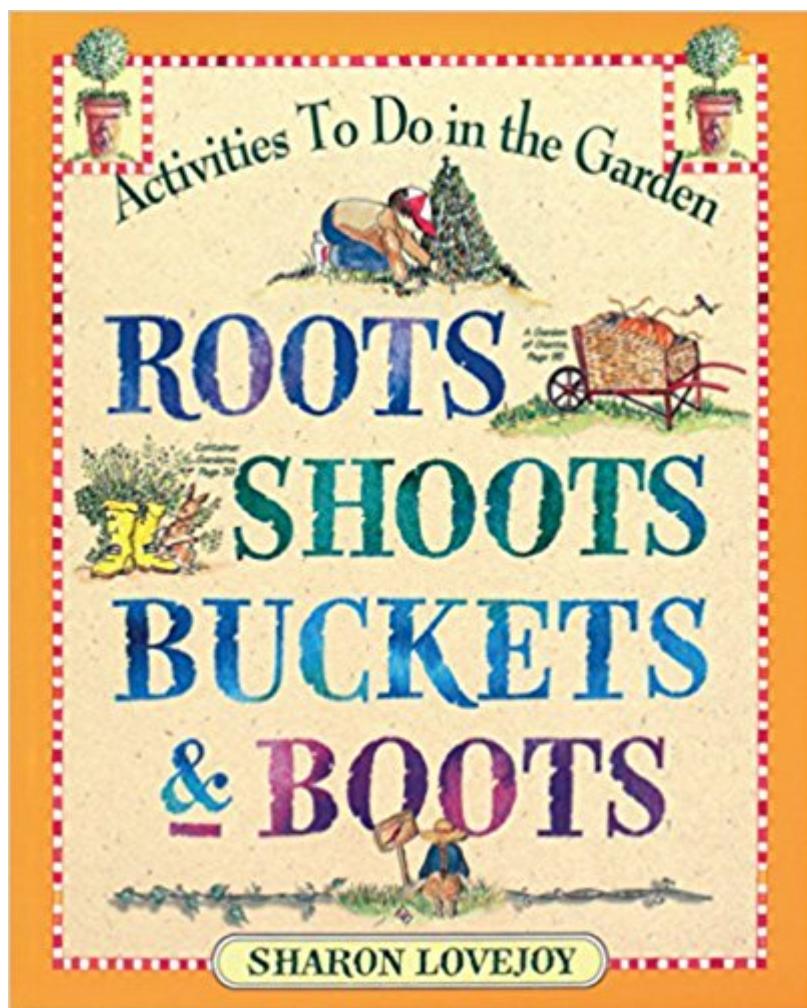


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# Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots: Gardening Together With Children



## **Synopsis**

Plant a pumpkinseed with a child, and cultivate wonder. This simple act of reconnecting with children with nature is Sharon Lovejoy's purpose and joy and gift. Author of Sunflower Houses: Garden Discoveries for Children of All Ages and Hollyhock Days: Garden Adventures for the Young at Heart, Sharon Lovejoy is a nationally known garden writer whose books, television specials, and projects at her learning landscape in California have introduced thousands of children to the pleasures of gardening. In her newest book, Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots, she presents 12 spirited, easy-to-implement ideas for theme gardens that parents and kids can grow together. Illustrated throughout by the author's own lyrical watercolors, each garden includes a plan, the planting recipe -- seeds, seedlings, and growing instructions spelled out step-by-step -- and activities. There's the Pizza Patch, a giant-size wheel garden planted in "slices" of tomatoes, zucchini, oregano, and basil. A Flowery Maze to get lost in. A Moon Garden of night-blooming flowers, including a moonflower tent. And Mother Nature's Medicine Chest. Discovery Walks teach kids how the gardens work, and a chapter on gardening basics includes a child-friendly 10-Minute Plan for planting and maintenance, plus a list of the top 20 plants guaranteed to make gardeners out of kids.

## **Book Information**

Series: Gardening together with children

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: Workman Publishing Company; 1st edition (May 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0761110569

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Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.6 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 107 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #126,491 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Gardening #52 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Flowers & Plants #199 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies

Age Range: 4 - 10 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 5

## Customer Reviews

Green thumbs and non-green thumbs alike will fall in love with Roots, Shoots, Buckets, & Boots, a remarkably fun and informative introduction to the wonderful world of gardening--and more specifically, gardening with children. Learn how to make everything from a pizza garden (pizza-pie-shaped, with herbs and vegetables for a fabulous pizza at harvest time), to a sunflower house (a secret hideaway with stately sunflowers and lovely creeping morning glories), to a moon garden ("Fragrance is the color of night"). Chock full of helpful hints, clever and artistic touches, and intriguing "recipes" (Moth Broth and Compost Sandwich, to name a few), this idea book will spark creativity and a lifelong fascination with gardening. Nine concepts for theme gardens are presented in a clearly defined yet non-rigid manner that is just right for encouraging young gardeners. Sharon Lovejoy, award-winning author and illustrator of several gardening books, including Hollyhock Days: Garden Adventures for the Young at Heart, has a true knack for working with all kinds of living things, including children. She understands how quickly young people will be turned off by inflexible rules, and instead encourages budding green thumbs to experiment and explore, while providing them with useful guidelines and helpful information. Wonderfully earthy watercolors make this cozy book even more welcoming. (All ages) --Emilie Coulter

Grade 1-4-A compact treasury of gardening lore, tips, and ideas for adults to share with children. What sets it apart from other how-to books on the subject is Lovejoy's artistic, whimsical, holistic approach. She gives guidelines and instructions for a backyard moon garden that attracts night creatures, thematic suggestions for a pizza garden and a pumpkin patch, and includes the smallest of gardens in a discarded glove or boot. The author's list of top 20 plants for kids will get youngsters and their parents raring to dig. While some of the recommended plants are unusual, a generous resource list complete with addresses, phone numbers, and Web sites should make ordering easy. Other novel, thrifty advice includes how to harvest seeds and how to make your own seed tape with toilet paper, flour paste, and seeds. The sunny illustrations, informative sidebars, and nuggets of wisdom illuminate the text. Readers can almost picture Mother Nature leaning over Lovejoy's shoulder advising: "Don't forget herbal remedies" (she doesn't) or "Do include craft ideas" (she does--from a prosaic worm box to fanciful dream pillows). Marilyn Payne Phillips, University City Public Library, MO Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

**POSITIVES** Childhood OUTDOOR FUN There are guidelines and instructions on how to create different types of gardens (PIZZA garden, MOON garden, pumpkin patch) -- these themes are great

fun.Creatively written and easy to understand even if you have no gardening experienceCraft activitiesCREATIVEEconomical advice like how to make your own seed tape and seed savingHints on the 20 best plants for childrenUseful informationGood gift HIGHLY RECOMMEND

This is the cutest book! Really creative ideas that kids will love and parents will enjoy with them. Can't wait to start making memories! Thank you for this wonderful book!

Purchased many a copy of this book for the younger gardeners in our family and they all love it.

Great way to get outside and in the dirt with your kids.

Not a lot of info. Looking forward to making a bean tunnel

This book was a whimsical introduction to gardening for me and my toddler. We first read this book at the local library, after checking it out countless times it became clear that we needed a copy of our own.

Roots Shoots Buckets & BootsActivities To Do in the Gardenby Sharon Lovejoy(5/5 stars)In anticipation of warmer months, this is a book I recommend for anyone with kids and room for a garden of some sort.Sections are organized into activities for planning and building fun gardens full of imagination, play, and of course food! Theme gardens like living Sunflower Houses and delicious Pizza Patches appeal to basics children already love. Some of the results also have crafts involved, like harvesting certain types of gourds to make bowls or birdhouses. (Even a loofa for Mom!)This book is not just your average kid or grownup garden book. One whole chapter is dedicated to creating a Moon Garden! This garden or part of your garden that comes to life when the sun and other plants go to sleep. How wonderful that an activity like gardening, that already brings a family together, can also teach science and help kids to understand that the world is active and very much alive even after we ourselves go to sleep.What I love best are the ideas in this book. Even if you don't have the most enormous yard, you can take the concepts and scale them down or invent your own outdoor space with it.Every page of Roots Shoots Buckets & Boots comes to life with warmly colored pages, gorgeous hand painted illustrations, and inspiring, easy to follow directions and recipes for family fun in the sun.Happy gardening![...]

I am in love with Sharon Lovejoy's books. I highly recommend them all. These are a collection of pretend-play ideas, outdoor discoveries, woodsy crafts, old fashioned games, and even some recipes that all help us meditate upon the forgotten luxury of simple living. Many of the activities guide you through the types of outdoor play you may have long forgotten since becoming a curmudgeonly old adult. Lovejoy makes fairies come alive again and mudpies seem like culinary masterpieces. There are various suggestions about how to create a cozy, child-friendly oasis within your home - stashing dress up clothes in a large trunk, keeping a large basket full of books in every room, bringing nature indoors. The illustrations throughout these books are so charming - watercolor sketches reminiscent of Beatrix Potter, which is perfectly suited to the content of the books. Visit my parenting blog for more great book recommendations similar to this one. [...]

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