



# Vegetable Spotlight

## CUCUMBERS



### VEGETABLE SUMMARY

**SYG Variety:** Diva

**Growing Seasons:** Summer

**Maintenance:** Once seedlings appear, thin plants to stand about 12-18 inches apart. Watch this [How to Thin Your Seedlings](#) video to learn more. The plants will grow little yellow flowers before fruit develops, so be sure to not pick the flowers!

**Harvest:** Cucumbers can be continually harvested throughout the summer growing season. Watch this quick [How to Harvest Cucumbers](#) video to learn more.



SEEDS



SEEDLINGS



FULLY GROWN PLANT

**Nutrition Facts:** About 95% of cucumbers are water, so eating cucumbers helps keep our cells hydrated. The skin of cucumbers contain **vitamin A**. Vitamin A helps keep skin, brain and eye cells healthy. Cucumbers also contain vitamins C and K and the minerals magnesium and potassium.

**Recipes:** For a fresh and bright summer side dish, try this recipe for [Cucumber Tomato Salad](#)

**Book Recommendations:** *One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden* by Diane Mullen, Illustrated by Oriol Vidal

## COUNTING AND SHAPES IN THE GARDEN (CUCUMBER)

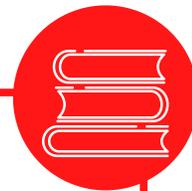
### MATERIALS:

- Counting and Shapes in the Garden Worksheet (provided)
- Clipboards (enough for each student)
- Pencils (enough for each student)



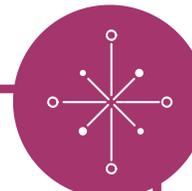
### SUMMARY:

In the book, *One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden*, we get to see how one neighborhood creates a beautiful garden together. This garden has four planter boxes. What shape are your garden containers? How many do you have? Count and find more shapes in your own garden.



### ACTIVITY:

1. After reading the book, *One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden*, review various shapes with your class. In addition to showing them photo examples of shapes or drawing 2-D shapes on the board, show them various shapes using classroom objects. For example, a piece of paper is in the shape of a rectangle.
2. After reviewing what shapes look like, travel out to the garden for a shape scavenger hunt. Pass out the 'Counting and Shapes in the Garden' Worksheet and a clipboard to each student. Explain the directions and discuss the first question together as a class. Ask the class - What shape are the containers in your garden? How many of each container do we have? Find a few other examples of shapes in the garden with your class and then let them complete the rest of the sheet independently or in pairs.
3. After about 10-15 minutes, come back together as a class and let students volunteer to share what they found. Discuss the various shapes each student found in the garden.
4. Wrap the activity up by watering, weeding and harvesting from your garden as needed.



### KANSAS AND MISSOURI EARLY LEARNING GOALS:

#### KANSAS:

M.G.p4.2: Correctly name shapes regardless of their orientations or overall size.

#### Missouri:

V.E.2.c.: Identifies and names some shapes.



## COUNTING AND SHAPES IN THE GARDEN (CUCUMBERS)

**Directions:** Travel out to your garden and go on a shape scavenger hunt!

Example: In the book, *One Little Lot: The 1-2-3s of an Urban Garden*, they have 4 garden boxes and they are each shaped like a rectangle.



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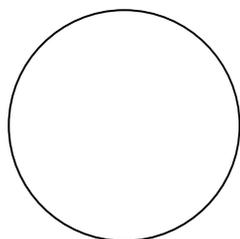


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What shape are the garden containers in your school garden?  
How many of each do you have?



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

Did you find other shapes in your garden? Draw them in the boxes below and write how many of each shape you find on the line.

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____