Education begins long before a child goes to Infant School . . .

This is a Ladybird talkabout book. It is a book to be used—and enjoyed—with young children and has been specially planned with the help of qualified nursery school advisers.

All the books in this talkabout series are designed to stimulate conversation between child and adult, encourage the early growth of vocabulary, assist mental development and provide a sound basis for future progress in reading and general awareness.

The use of too many questions has been avoided, as it is more important to encourage comment and discussion than to expect particular answers.

Care has been taken to retain sufficient realism in the illustrations and subject matter to enable a young child to have fun identifying objects, creatures and situations.

It is wise to remember that patience and understanding are very important, and that children do not all develop evenly or at the same rate. Parents should not be anxious if children do not give correct answers to those questions that are asked. With help, they will do so in their own time.

The brief notes at the back of this book will enable interested parents to make the fullest use of these Ladybird talkabout books.
talkabout
gardens

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All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior consent of the copyright owner.
Talk about the garden
The garden in spring  ... and in summer
The garden in autumn

... and in winter
Match each picture with its black shape.
Talk about insects in the garden
LOOK and find another like this

...and this

...and this

...and this
Growing radishes

1. Planting seeds
2. Watering the plants
3. Rows of radishes growing
4. Picking radishes
5. Radishes on a plate
How the garden gets its water
LOOK and find another like this

...and this

...and this
Talk about **above** and **below** the ground
Talk about flowers from bulbs

Put the bulbs in damp fibre and store in a dark, cool place

Now they are ready to come out and flower
1. Tell the story

2.

3.

4.
Have you tasted these?
Talk about:

tall and short

large and small

one and many
Watching things grow

1. Pour the seeds into a tray.
2. Germination happens.
3. Cut the sprouts and add to a sandwich.
4. Enjoy your meal!
Have you smelt these?
Gardens in the park
Talk about what we grow in the greenhouse.
Let's make a garden
with an old tray, a small mirror,
stones, twigs, grass or moss, soil
and a few small flowers
The garden shop

seeds
Suggestions for extending the use of this talkabout book . . .

There are many ways in which the illustrations in this book may be used — the page headings are intended only as brief suggestions.

Each picture has been planned not only to extend the child’s vocabulary but also his understanding of concepts. In this book you can talk about the value of water, the usefulness of insects, comparative sizes, taste, and how things grow. You can also talk about time, balance, tidiness and numbers, leading into each subject with a particular picture, and illustrating it further from other pictures.

Visual differences of shape may be pointed out from many of the illustrations, such as ‘Look and find another like this’ and ‘Match each picture with its black shape’. The ability to recognise differences in shape can be a great help later when learning to read.

Talk about the different seasons in the garden, pointing out the changes in the trees, the flowers, the clothes people are wearing and so on.

Very young children have to learn that pictures can have a story sequence. When you tell the first one or two ‘Tell the story’ sequences, point to each picture in its correct order. Eventually, and in their own time, children often wish to tell the story themselves.

Children love to grow things, even if it is only a carrot top or mustard and cress on a saucer. The pictures in this book will show you and your child how to enjoy talking about your garden and the things that can be grown there — and every discussion teaches something new.