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What is an organic garden? A garden is organic when no pesticides or chemical fertilizers are used. Organic gardens are naturally fertilized with compost-plant material that's turned into black organic soil. Learn how to compost in **KSE's Teaching Grownups** or "Google" it!



Why should my garden be organic? Because your garden will be healthy for the Earth and will grow food that is healthy for you. Pesticides and man-made fertilizers can hurt the Earth and you. Organic gardens also conserve and protect water and soil.

Where can I plant an organic garden? Find a small open, sunny space in your yard or even in pots on a patio.



How do I make my garden? **1.** Once you have picked your garden spot, find other friends to help you dig up the soil and loosen it so there are no clumps. Use hoes, shovels and rakes.
2. Now decide what seeds you want to plant. What are your favorite vegetables? Or would you prefer

berries? Maybe you want a little of each. Be sure to try to buy organic seeds. They aren't much more expensive and they are healthier for you. If you want to start with little organic plants called seedlings, that's ok too. Tomato seedlings work very well.

- 3.** Use your hoe to draw long trenches from one end of the garden to the other.
- 4.** Mist your garden with water.
- 5.** Place the seeds or seedlings in the trenches. Your seed instructions will explain how deep and how far apart. Cover the seeds or seedling roots with soil. If you already have compost, use it to cover the seeds.
- 6.** Make signs to remind you what plants you have planted. Use colorful yarn to lay over each trench so you know where you have planted the seeds.
- 7.** When you see the soil is dry, water with a mist spray to keep the soil damp.
- 8.** Pull out the weeds between the trenches.
- 9.** Sit back and watch your food grow.
- 10.** Harvest, wash, and eat!

