

Longwood Gardens Community Read 2020 Additional Readings (younger readers)

We encourage you to continue reading books about plants. Here are some suggestions for other books based on the Russian folktale of the giant turnip, as well as a book about plant intelligence, and books about unusual plants. You will find these titles at public libraries and local bookstores in your community.

Can You Hear the Trees Talking?: Discovering the Hidden Life of the Forest / by Peter Wohlleben (2019)

Did you know that trees have parents, and tree grandparents with wrinkles? That tree kids go to school for hundreds of years? That there is such a thing as the forest internet? And that trees make us healthy and strong. Sometimes, even trees get sick, but we can help them heal. *Can You Hear the Trees Talking?* shares the mysteries and magic of the forest in language kids will love and understand. Grades 3-5. (www.amazon.com)

Elizabite: Adventures of a Carnivorous Plant / by H.A. Rey (1942)

In this book by one of the creators of Curious George, Elizabite, a smiling Venus flytrap, bites the people in Doctor White's home and becomes famous after she catches a burglar. Grades PreK-2. (<https://www.scholastic.com>)

El Nabo Gigante/The Giant Turnip / adapted by Henrietta Barkow (in English and Spanish, 2011)

When Miss Honeywood's class sets about planting a vegetable garden, they have no idea what's in store for them. Soon they have grown a turnip taller than a giraffe and wider than an elephant! But what can you do with a giant turnip? Grades PreK-2.

(<http://usa.mantralingua.com>)

The Giant Cabbage: An Alaska Folktale / by Cherie Stihler (2003)

Moose is sure his giant cabbage will win a prize at the fair. However, the cabbage is so large that Moose and his friends have trouble loading it into the truck. Grade PreK-2.

(<https://www.scholastic.com>)



The Gigantic Sweet Potato / by Dianne de Las Casas (2010)

When Ma Farmer gets a hankering for some sweet potato pie, she decides to plant a sweet potato in her garden. But when it comes time to harvest, the sweet potato has grown to be so enormous that it is stuck! So Ma grabs Pa, but the sweet potato still won't budge. Soon Bessie Cow, Ralphie Dog, and Kitty Cat join in to help; that sweet potato sure is stubborn. When itty-bitty Lily Mouse offers to help, everyone soon learns that a small and mighty effort can yield GIGANTIC rewards. (<https://pelicanpub.com>)

Grandma Lena's Big Ol' Turnip / by Denia Lewis Hester (2005)

Grandma Lena believes that something worth doing is worth doing right. So she takes good care of the turnips she plants in her garden. One turnip grows to an enormous size—Baby Pearl thinks it's a big potato! It is big enough to feed half the town. And it's so big that Grandma can't pull it out of the ground! Even when Grandpa, Uncle Izzy, Aunt Netty, and the dog help Grandma yank and tug, the big ol' turnip doesn't budge. Grades PreK-3. (<https://www.albertwhitman.com>)

Perfectly Peculiar Plants / by Chris Thorogood (2018). Chris is the author of *Weird Plants*, one of our 2020 Community Read titles.

This exuberant celebration of the weird and wonderful world of plants is full of unexpected facts, perfect for budding botanists and armchair art lovers alike. A vibrant, close-up exploration of plants, this colorful book focuses on the extraordinary and unexpected, from the tiny bee orchid to the mighty strangler fig. Grades 5-7. (<https://www.quartoknows.com>)

