1. What was the author's purpose for writing this book?

2. What do you think the Garden Bunch will be doing next summer? What clues in the selection help you to make your prediction?

3. Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. On a web like the one below, write two antonyms for the word lazy.

4. Look at the picture on pages 4 and 5. Tell two things about the garden that are not written in the text.
We’re the Garden Bunch. We are friends who love digging in the dirt!

We’re growing vegetables again this summer. We like to eat the vegetables that we grow. This year we’re going to sell them! Now we are business partners too!
We planted three new crops this year. We chose carrots, beans, and lettuce. We planted our vegetables in this sunny spot. The plants need about six hours of sunlight every day to grow well.

Each of us has a special job to do in the garden. Now that we’ve decided which crops to plant this year, we’re ready to work. So off we go!
I’m Miranda. I take care of the sweet, crunchy carrots in our garden. It’s not easy to spot the carrots. The part of the carrot that we eat grows under the ground.

Clever rabbits like to nibble on the green carrot tops. A wire fence will help keep the rabbits out.

I water the plants every day. Most outdoor plants need about one inch of water every week. One day, I forgot to water the plants. The next day, they were wilted. I felt as if I had cheated the plants out of a drink of water. I never forgot to water them again!
I'm Alex. I take care of the bean plants. They are climbing plants. I put poles in the ground to give the plants something to climb as they grow.

I give the plants food. The food makes them strong.

I pull the weeds from around the bottoms of the bean plants. Weeds crowd out plants that are trying to grow. With the weeds gone, the sunlight, water, and food can get to the plants.
I’m Lindsay. My job is to take care of these lettuce plants. We planted the lettuce two months ago. Now they are ready for harvesting.

Harvesting is a big job. There’s no time to be lazy!

Vegetables taste best when they are fresh. How do you know when they are fresh? That’s easy. Vegetables are fresh when they ripen!

To harvest the plants, we cut the lettuce from the tops of the stems.

Now we have finished our jobs. Can you guess what we are going to do next?
We’re going to sell the vegetables to our neighbors. Maybe we’ll have incredible wealth by the end of the summer!

Even if we don’t earn a lot of money, we’ve had fun taking care of our garden. We like being together and digging in the dirt. We’re the Garden Bunch!

Reader Response

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   Lazy
   [two circles to fill in]

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