A Garden for Everyone

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Question of the Week
What can we do to make sure solutions are fair?

Key Comprehension Skill
Author’s Purpose

Concept Words
twins plot
shovel soil

Learning Goals
• Fair solutions are good for everyone.
• Some cities have gardens.
• It is fun to plant a garden.
Jim and Peter are **twins**. They live in the city. Their building does not have a yard to play in. So they play baseball in the park after school.

**twins**: two people born at the same time of the same mother
One day, their teacher had some great news. There was a new place for people to plant gardens. Each family could have a garden plot. Jim and Peter were happy to hear this. Peter wanted to plant peppers and corn. Jim wanted to plant lettuce and tomatoes.

plot: a small piece of ground
The twins’ mother took them to see the garden plots.
They could not agree on what to plant. Peter wanted to use the whole plot to plant his crops. He wondered how his peppers and corn would taste.
Jim also wanted to use the whole plot for his crops. What about his lettuce and tomatoes?
The twins did not know what to do. Then their mother had a clever idea. She said the boys could split the garden plot into two equal parts. Peter could plant peppers and corn in one half. Jim could plant lettuce and tomatoes in the other half.
Jim and Peter liked their mother’s idea. They thought it was fair. Each planned their half of the plot. Peter planned to have four rows of corn and two rows of peppers. Jim would have three rows of lettuce and four tomato plants.
Jim and Peter started to work in the garden.

First, they each used a shovel to dig holes.

Next, they put seeds into the holes. Then they covered the seeds with soil. Last, they poured water on the soil. Soon, some little plants began to grow.

shovel: a garden tool used for digging
soil: dirt for planting
Jim and Peter worked in their garden all summer.

They watered the plants and watched them grow.

They liked being out in the sun and air. Both twins grew the crops they liked best. Their mother watched the twins proudly. She was excited to eat the vegetables her boys grew!
Talk About It
1. What did Peter want to plant in his half of the garden? What did Jim want to plant in his half?
2. What can you do when you and someone else do not agree?

Write About It
3. On a separate sheet of paper, draw a picture of a garden that you would like to plant. Write a sentence about it.

Extend Language
Jim and Peter disagreed about what to plant in their garden. To disagree means not agree. Look at the word disagree. The prefix dis- means “not.” What do the words dislike and disbelieve mean?
### Genre
- Realistic fiction

### Build Background
- Gardening
- Vegetables
- Problem Solving

### Access Content
- Labels
- Definitions
- Diagrams

### Extend Language
- Prefix *dis-*