Mamá's Birthday Garden

by Isabella Stefan
Illustrated by Priscilla Burris
Question of the Week
How do you know if a solution is a good solution?

High Frequency Words
family need
lives real
plant

Concept Words
birthday idea
plastic planted
seeds

Learning Goals
• You can think carefully about solutions.
• You can think about good ways to fix mistakes.
• Gifts given with love can be a good solution.

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Paula makes a sign. Papá makes a cake. Today is Mamá’s birthday!
Paula’s family lives in a new house. Mamá’s birthday party will be there.

“Let’s work fast,” says Papá. “Mamá will be home soon.”
Paula pulls the wagon with the flowers. “Oh no! The flowers are plastic!” says Papá.

“What is wrong?” asks Paula. “We had plastic flowers in our apartment.”
“Oh, Paula,” says Papá. “A garden needs real flowers!”
Paula starts to cry.

“I need flowers to plant,” says Paula, “but I do not have money.”

“I have an idea,” says Mrs. Bailey. “You can plant seeds for your mother!”

“Seeds are a great idea!” says Paula. Paula and Mrs. Bailey start to work.
Mamá comes home.


“This is the best birthday!” says Mamá.

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**Talk About It**

1. What do Paula and Papá plan to give Mamá?

2. How does Mrs. Bailey help?

**Write About It**

3. What can you give to someone? Draw a picture on a separate sheet of paper. Write a sentence about it.

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**Extend Language**

A word can be a noun. A noun names a person, place, or thing. The same word can be a verb too. A verb describes an action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>plant</th>
<th>noun</th>
<th>The plant had green leaves.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plant</td>
<td>verb</td>
<td>She will plant the seeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>Father drives to work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work</td>
<td>verb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tell how Papá and Paula can work.