



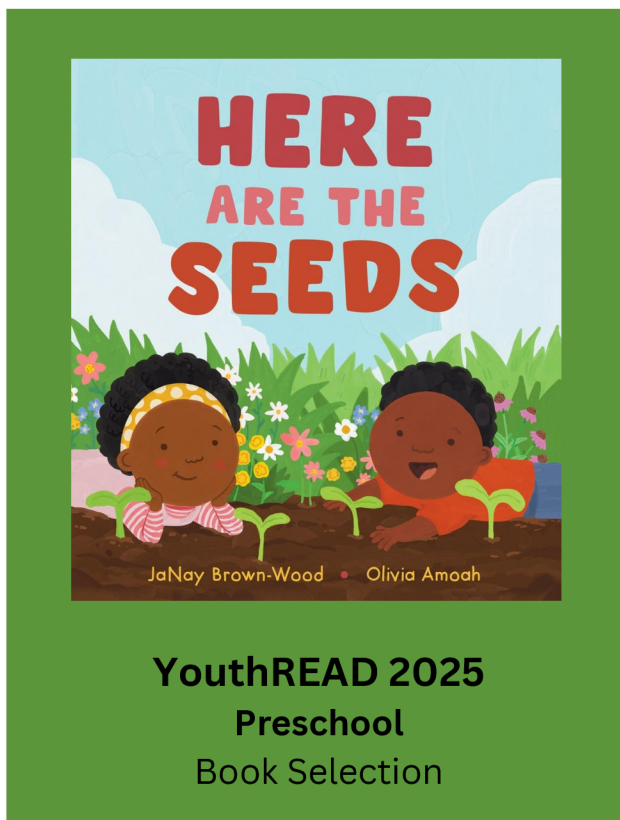
YouthREAD 2025

# HERE ARE THE SEEDS

Written by JaNay Brown-Wood

Illustrated by Olivia Amoah

Author and poet JaNay Brown-Wood's cumulative tale, similar to *The House That Jack Built*, starts promisingly: "Here are the seeds that we will sow to help our garden grow." But as time passes, the children quickly learn that things rarely go as planned in the garden. Plants will droop without enough sun and wilt without enough water. Suddenly, "OH NO!" becomes the children's repeated refrain. Eventually, the pair come to see that nature itself provides everything a magnificent garden needs to flourish!



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Join our CommunityREAD by reading and sharing this book, then enrich the experience with these questions and activities.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What happens to the plants in the garden when the ground is dry and the sun shines?
- What grew in the garden after it rained?
- What animals and insects can you find in a garden?
- What plants would you like to grow in a garden?

## ACTIVITIES

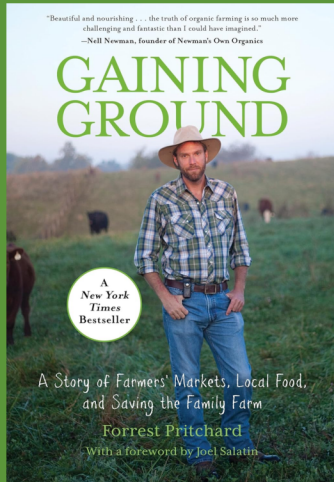
- Plant seeds in a cup or in the garden and see what happens with a little water, sun, and time. What did you grow? Is it a flower or a vegetable? Can you eat its fruit?
- Color a picture of your favorite garden insect. What colors did you use? What does your insect like to eat? Does it fly, crawl, or wiggle?

Share what you did with the library on Facebook ([facebook.com/FHCPL](https://www.facebook.com/FHCPL)) or Instagram (@FHCPL).



**CommunityREAD**

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## WHAT IS COMMUNITYREAD?

CommunityREAD is a month-long community event that encourages reading and discussion. Each year, a different CommunityREAD book is chosen, along with a selection of YouthREAD books that explore similar topics and themes for younger readers.

The 2025 CommunityREAD book is *Gaining Ground: A Story of Farmers' Markets, Local Food, and Saving the Family Farm* by Forrest Pritchard. The author will present at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts on March 20, 2025.

## 2025 YOUTHREAD TITLES

- Preschool: *We Are the Seeds* by JaNay Brown-Wood
- Grades K-2: *Amara's Farm* by JaNay Brown-Wood
- Grades 3-5: *Stepping Stones* by Lucy Knisley
- Grades 6-8: *The Labors of Hercules Beal* by Gary D. Schmidt
- Grades 9-12: *Bend in the Road* by Sara Biren