

# Mapping Your Victory Garden

## Victory Garden Series Part 3

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### GRADES:

4 - 12 (refer to suggested modifications at the end of this document)

### DURATION:

Varies depending on the level. This can be done in one day. This activity is part 3 of the larger series on Victory Gardens. You can find the other parts [here](#).

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Children will be able to make a simple map.
- Children will understand how to use a scale and compass rose.

### MATERIALS:

- Map My Garden Worksheet, attached
- Compass (most smart phones have a built-in compass, or you can download a free compass app)
- Measuring tape
- Ruler
- Pencil or pen

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

#### For Children

Successful gardening begins with planning, and one of the most important parts of planning is figuring out the best place to put your garden. Vegetable gardens need plenty of sunlight, good soil, and water. When planning your garden, you want to try to have your rows on a North-South axis, which allows the garden to get the most amount of sun. You also want your garden to be close to a water source so you can easily water the garden every day.

#### For Adults

Make sure you provide the child with parameters for their garden so they don't pick a spot where you don't want a garden! If you don't have a yard or an appropriate space for a garden, you can always do a [container garden](#). Children can still successfully complete this activity as a container garden.

### ACTIVITY OUTLINE:

1. Talk to your child about planning a garden (refer to the Background Information above).
2. After the initial research or instruction, ask some questions to assess if the main concepts were understood.
3. Children will then complete the Map My Garden worksheet. For this activity you will need to go outside with your compass, measuring tape, and a piece of paper to map your garden. Use the questions on the worksheet to help you through each step of the process.

### ADAPTATION FOR EACH GRADE:

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4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will need more adult assistance with this activity. Middle school and high school students should be able to do the majority of this activity with minimal assistance (except maybe having someone hold the other end of the tape measure!).

### **EXTENSION:**

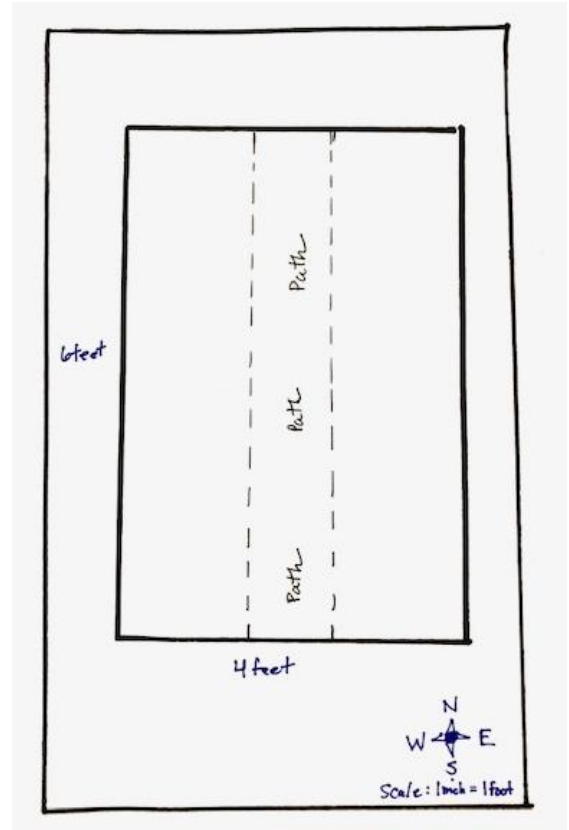
Now that you've mapped your garden, time to go to Part 4 – Planting Your Garden!



# Map My Garden Worksheet

## WHAT TO MARK ON YOUR MAP:

1. Put a legend at the bottom right corner. The legend should include:
  - a. A compass rose – Using your compass, find north to help you draw your compass rose.
  - b. Scale – You won't be able to draw your map true size so you will use a scale. You want it big enough that you can draw in what you want to plant. For example, for every one inch of garden you draw that would equal one foot.
2. Find a sunny spot to put your garden, measure it and place it on your map using your scale.
  - a. Remember that we want to try to plant our garden on a North-South axis! (This means that your rows run North to South.)
  - b. Don't have a big yard? That's ok! You can plant a [container garden](#). You can still draw a map of the space where you will keep your container garden and plan what to plant where.
3. Mark out your rows. Make each row about 2 feet wide. Make sure to include a path at about a foot wide so you can weed and harvest easily. Here's an example:



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### MAP YOUR GARDEN: