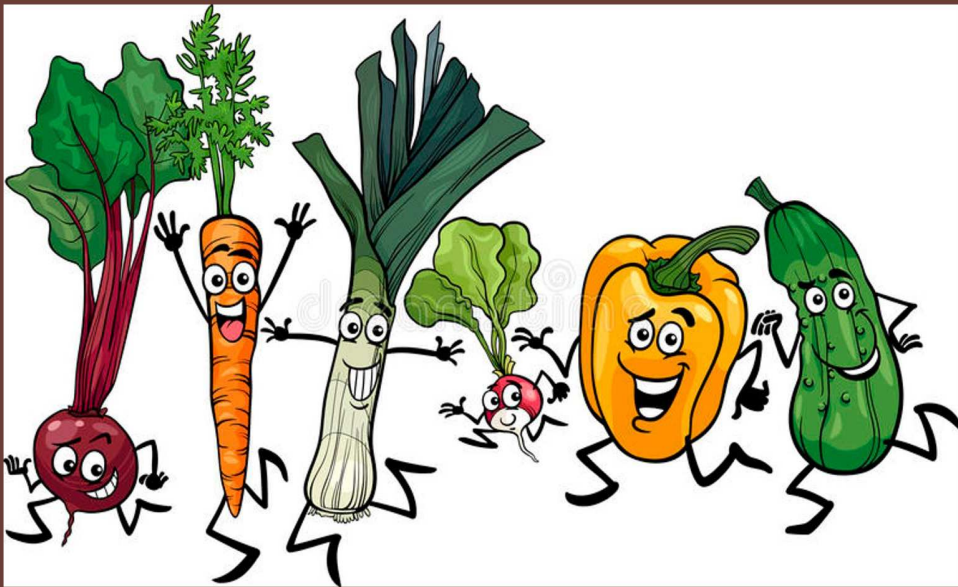


In The Garden with Papa Roni



by Frank Riner

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PaPa Roni 2020



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Papa Roni

There was an old man named Papa Roni
Who was one hundred twenty and kind of bony
He was six feet tall with a beard fluffy white
A grip of steel when he shook your hand tight

In all the land he was greatly revered
Then one day he just disappeared
Legend says he could grow a garden well
Sunshine or rain he could always foretell

Found in these pages are his garden secrets
All for free if you want to keep it
Now go and grow your own beautiful crop
And quit eating everyone else's slop!

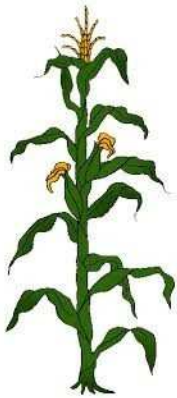
Kernels of Corn

I found two kernels of Corn

Now what should I do?

Should I put them in the ground?

Should I put them in my shoe?



If I put them in my shoe

Nothing would befall

But if I put them in the ground

They would grow six feet tall!

When they grow six feet tall

A tassel you will see

And somewhere beneath

Will be more kernels for free!



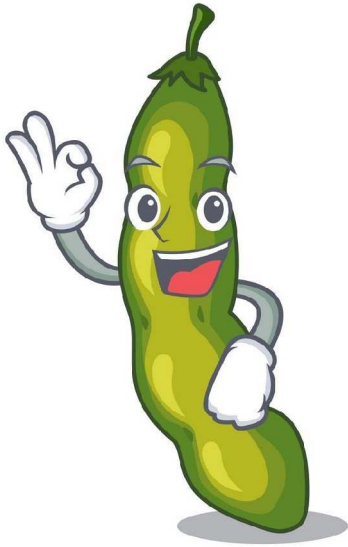
Sweet Potatoe



Sweet Potatoe, Sweet Potatoe – fried or boiled
Love to live in the hard clay soil
Put them in a hole six inches deep
So the vines can start their four month creep
Leave them in the bright sun all day long
So the tiny roots can grow big and strong
Dig them out the ground before first frost
Or all your Sweet Potatoes will be lost



Green Beans



Blue Lake Green Beans are the best
They taste better than all the rest

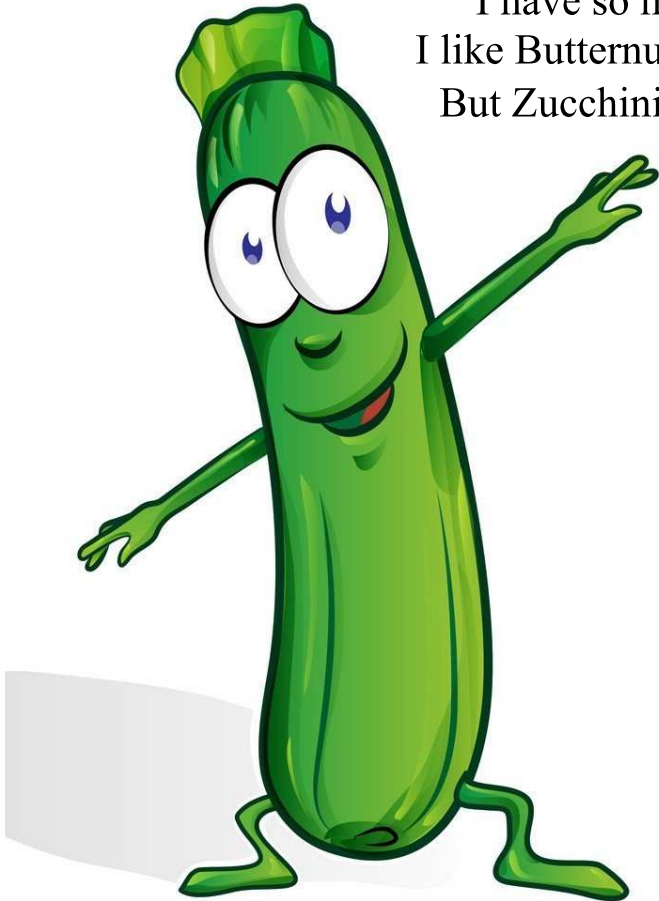
Sow them heavy in a double row
So the weeds between them will never grow

Wait for the rising of a half full moon
If you want to see bloom after bloom



Squash

Gosh! Oh Gosh! Let me tell you about Squash
I have so much to say!
I like Butternut and Crooked Neck
But Zucchini is my favorite way



To make Zucchini bread
Add a scoop of flour
Put it in the oven
Bake for an hour

Slice Zucchini noodles
Add some marinara
Or just eat it grilled
With two Mojarra



Squash Seeds

I took some little Squash seeds and put them in a cup
When they grew true leaves, I placed them in a garden plot
Now, I never claimed to have
A really good green thumb
But I planted them three feet apart
To see what they become

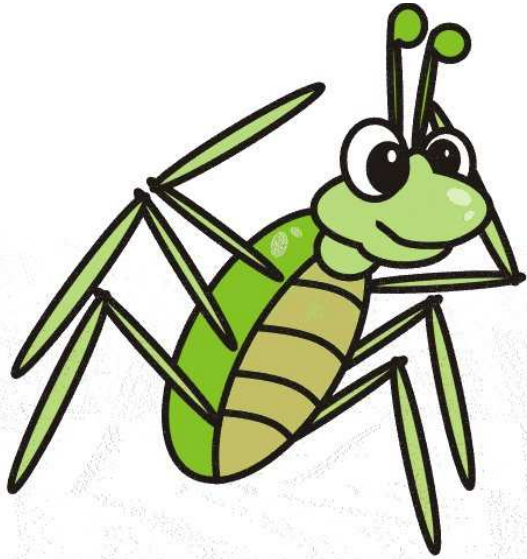


Each day I gave them water
Pulled the weeds around
Soon the yellow blossoms opened
Full and all around



Many bees came to visit, and it all got pollinated
The Squash grew really big and, well.....I ate it!

Squash Bugs!



Squash bug, Squash bug
You stinky arthropod
Why upon MY squash plants
Must you trod?

You lay your worthless golden eggs
Beneath the giant leaf
You steal the sap out of the vines
Like a silent thief



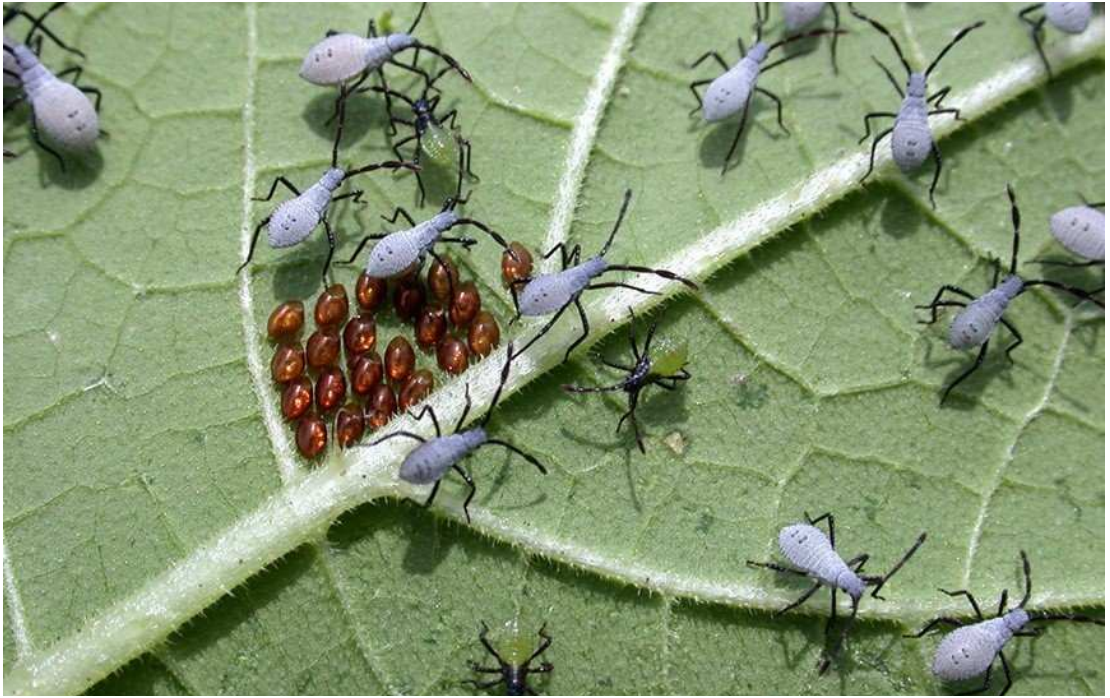
The only way to rid you
Is to Squash you with my hand



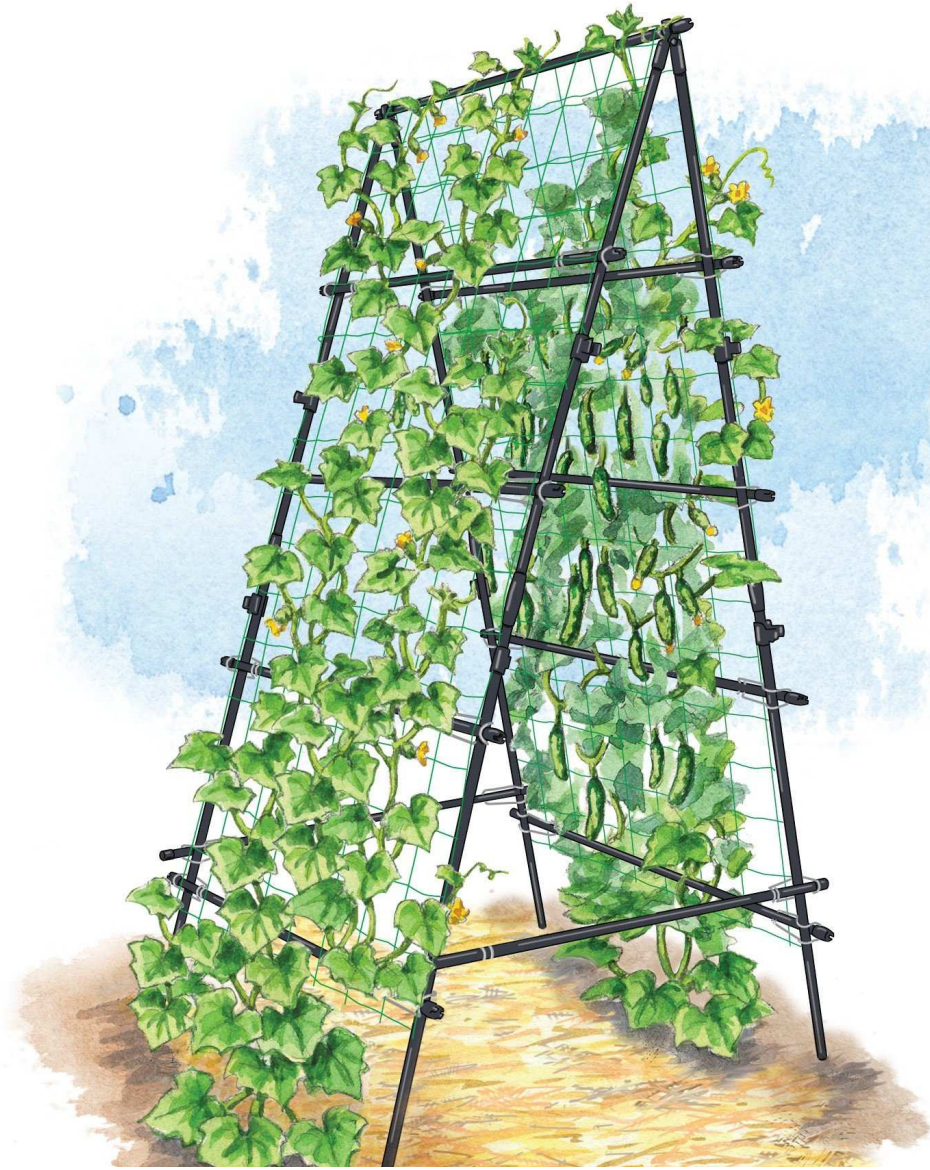
Or spray with Malathion
Now that's a good plan!



Squash Bugs!



Cucumbers



I grow my Cucumbers against a trellis - Oh how they love to climb
To reach as high as they can - Towards the bright sunshine
Soon their fruits begin to dangle - Oh what an entice
I must resist picking one - Until they ripen precise
Should I slice them in pickles or chop them into relish?
Should I eat them in a salad with lettuce and radish?

Cucumber in a Jar

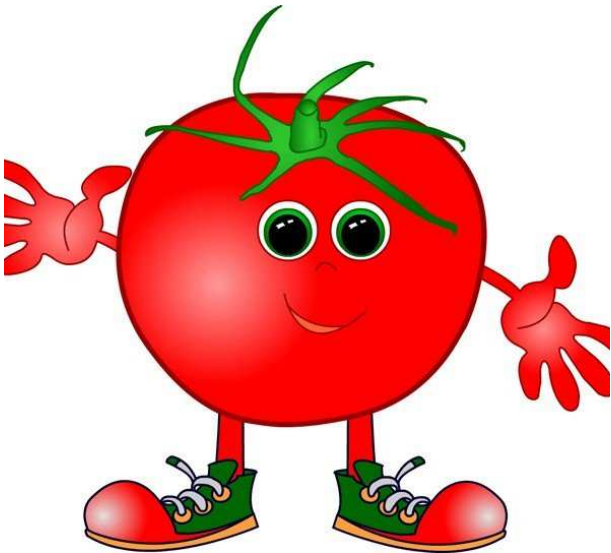
I grew a Cucumber in a jar
It was the strangest thing by far
People came from every town to see such odd, bizarre

Why did you grow a Cucumber in a jar? One man did ask me
I replied to him politely “Because I wanted to see!”

What did you want to see? A lady asked from afar
I replied to her politely, “To see if I could grow a Cucumber in a jar!”



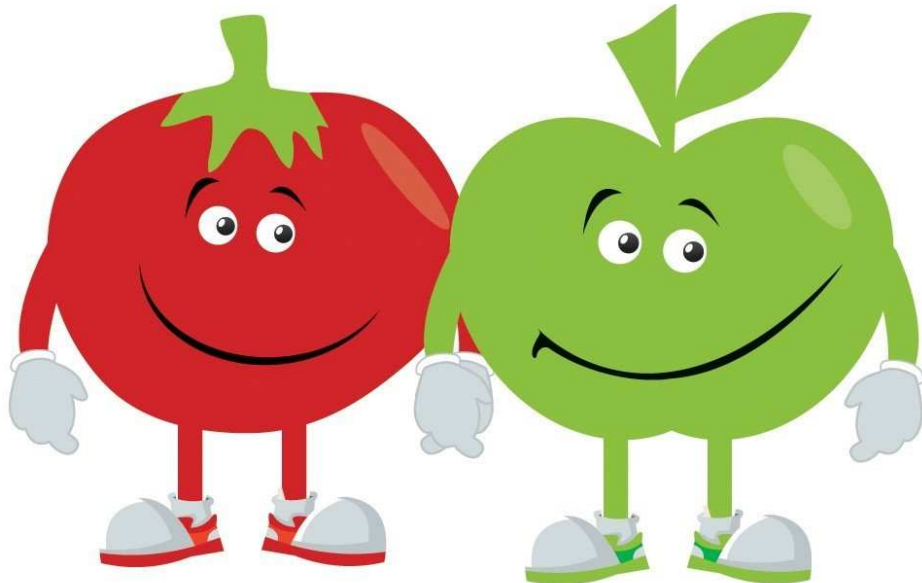
Tomatoes



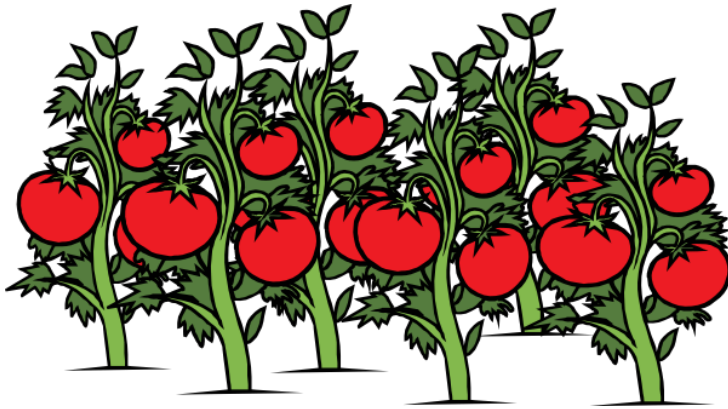
I think about Tomatoes all day in my head
I dream about Tomates when I go to bed

Better Boy and Whoppers, I can name a few
Big Zac, Pondarosa and SuperSauce too

Slice them for a sandwich or turn them into salsa
Toss them in a salad or what the recipe calls of



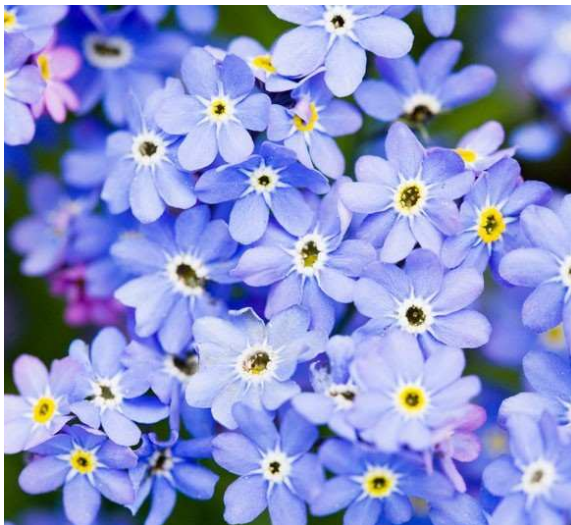
More Tomatoes



Plant your Tomatoes by a cattle panel fence
Tie them to the wire as they grow forth hence

Water at the roots, Never on the leaves
Clip off the suckers; I beg of you, please!

Tomatoes flourish amongst their friends
Borage and Marigolds are what I recommend



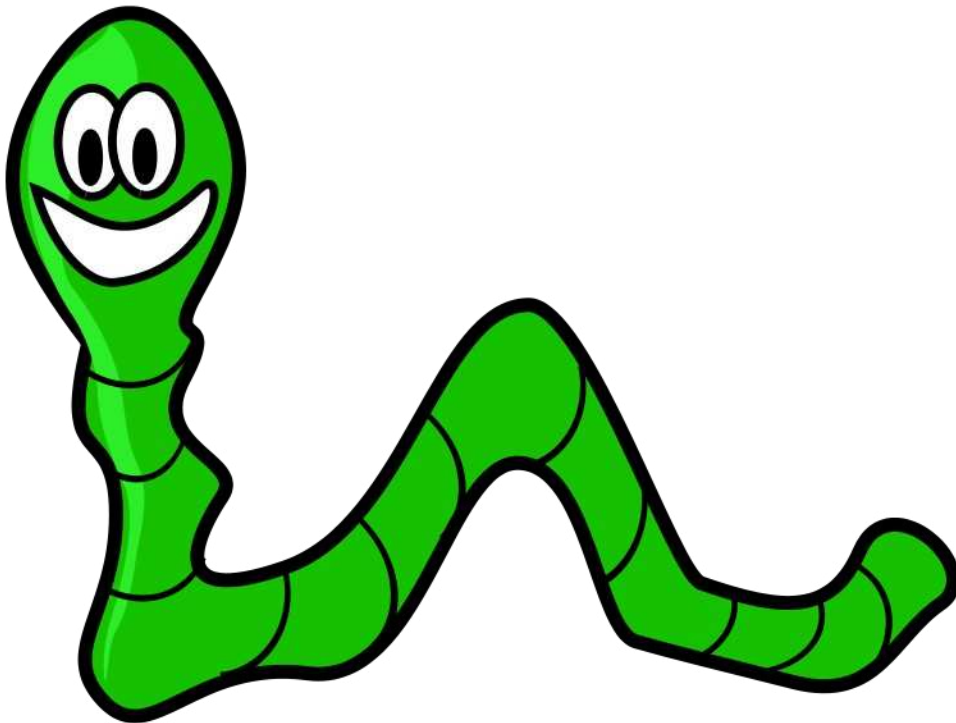
Tomato Worms!

Hear ye! Hear ye! I do warn!
For I wish to see no one mourn

The Five Spotted Hawk Moth lays eggs in spring
When the larva hatches, it's clothed in green

It hides in the shadow of the Tomato leaf
Concealment is its power, an expert at deceit

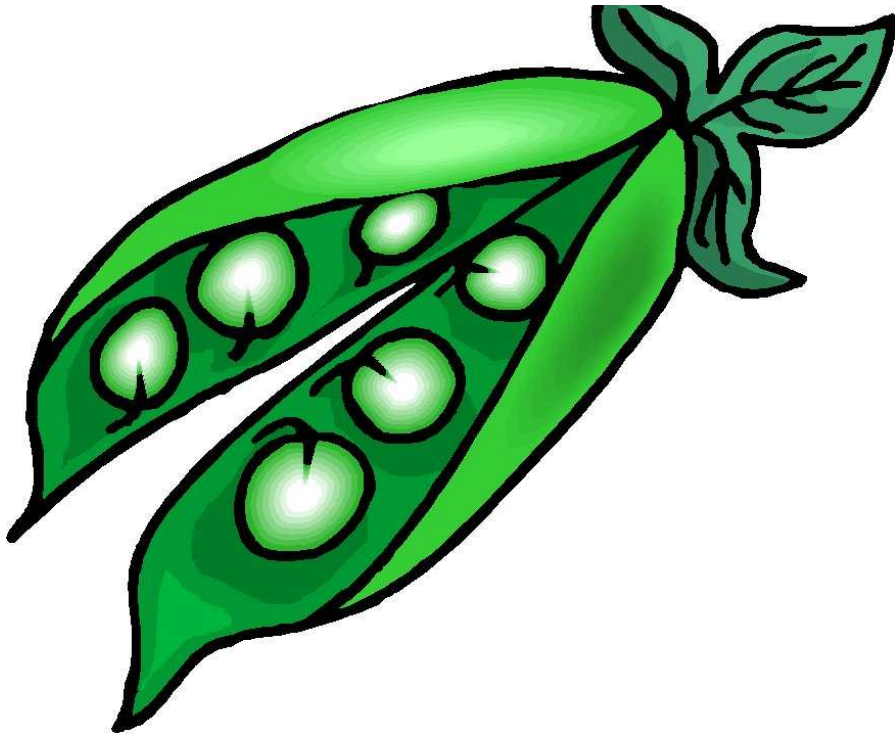
For you may look upon it one hundred thousand times
Yet never ever see it till it gets white waspy spines



Tomato Worms!



Butter Beans



I found no butter in my Butter Beans
I wonder where it went
Perhaps it fell out of the shell
Before the shell was bent

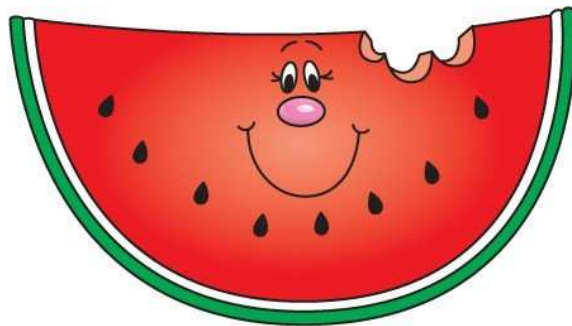
No, no butter was in any pod
I guess my Butter Beans are flawed!
So, I took my beans to a friendly stone cutter
He too could find no butter.

I placed the pods under an x-ray machine
But all it saw were three little beans
“So be it!” I said, “I will just cook them” I mutter
Then, when I ate them, I found the butter!

Watermelon

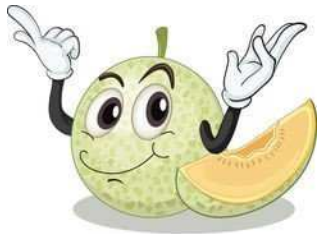
Big juicy Watermelon
Growing on the vine
Why do you take such an awful long time?

I wait and wait all summer long
Seeded or seedless, I anticipate
A red delicious piece
Piled high on my plate!



Cantaloupe

In the second quarter of the moon
Plant Cantaloupe
If you want a bountiful harvest
This is your best hope



Plant in hills of two or three
At least two feet apart
Weed and water daily
If you want to play it smart

When they begin to golden
Water them no more
The sweetness will set in
So goes the folklore



Broccoli and Cabbage

Broccoli and Cabbage - Early cold crop
A little fertile soil - A little rain drop
Flat Dutch Cabbage is a good hardy stock
Calabrese Broccoli, that's my kind of talk
Put them in the ground at first quarter moon
Early in the year before bugs bring doom



There was a lad who never ate Broccoli or Cabbage
He always lived a life of disadvantage
One day he moved to a town called Stockley
Where he always ate Cabbage and Broccoli
It gave him great health and a heart of glee
Do what your mother says and eat your veggie



Peppers

Green Pepper, Red Pepper growing on vine
Yellow Pepper, Orange Pepper taste so fine
Put them on a pizza
Throw them in a stew
Toss them in everything that I'm cooking too!



Jalapeno Peppers, hot! hot! hot!
Jalapeno Peppers burn on the spot
Slice them, dice them, pickle them too
While you do whatever with them
DON'T TOUCH YOU!

Pumpkins

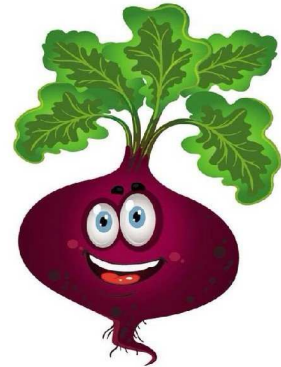
“Peter Peter Pumpkin Eater” Do you remember that nursery rhyme?
Growing Pumpkins in your garden is fun anytime!
Big bright orange ones, pale ghost white ones, striped yellow and green
Make a lot of Pumpkin pies or a Halloween scream

The thing about a Pumpkin plant is they are a kin to Squash
Squash bugs will attack them even if they are panache
Plant them at least five feet apart for the best result
Watch it grow to a giant size, you will be exult!



Root Crops

Third quarter
Waning moon
Plant your root crops
Beets Carrots, Onions
To name right off the top



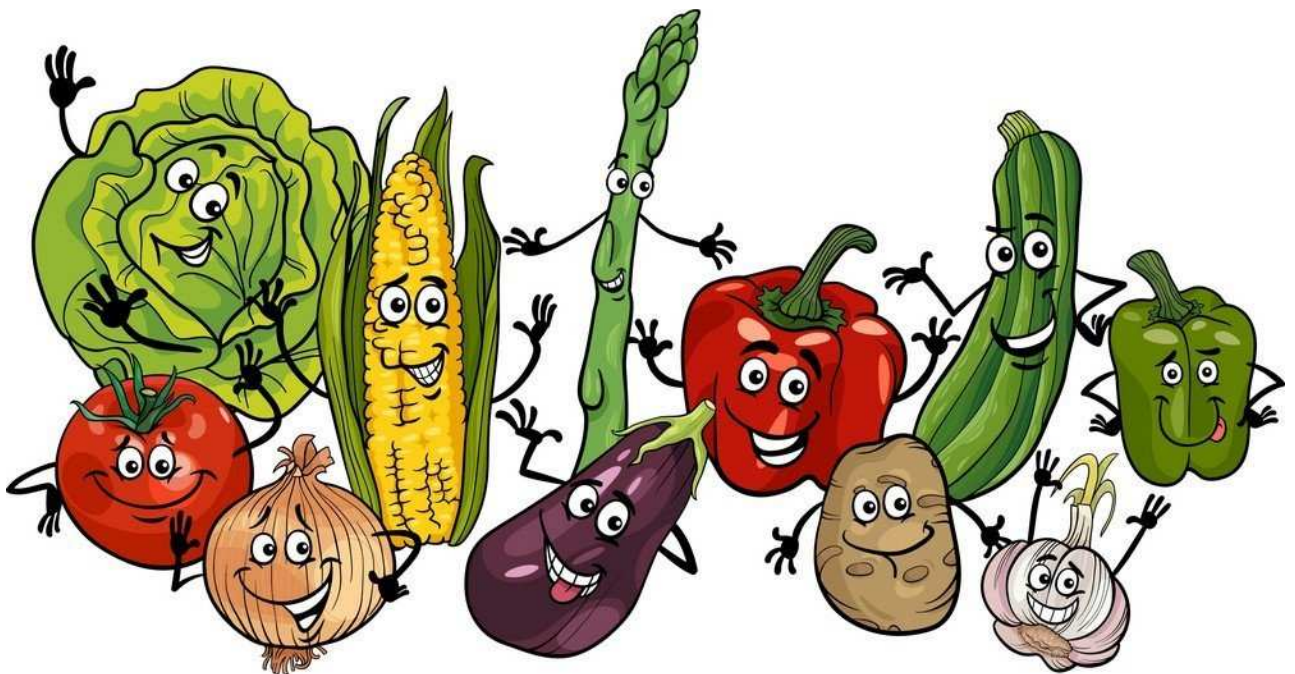
Radishes, White Potatoes plant well
in this moon phase
This is NOT the time to plant any
Maze

Three times a year
Look for this waning sign
Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces
To plant your Grape Vine



Lettuce

Have you ever seen a Lettuce seed? It is a tiny thing you know
A Lettuce seed however is the easiest to grow
So Lettuce be kind to one another
And Lettuce feed our hungry brother
For if the world was filled with Lettuce green
Perhaps there would be people less mean





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Joyous Garden