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HOME AND SCHOOL GARDENING FOR CHILDREN

1923

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JOHN LEWIS CHILDS INC. FLORAL PARK · N. Y.

This child has been successful with her home garden.

FOREWORD 1923

THIS little catalog has been compiled to supply the demand created by the increased interest of the children in gardening. Home Gardening for Children has become a wide-spread practice and we wish hereby to present to the children an opportunity to become acquainted with nature and the forces working upon the creation of Plant Life.

It is our endeavor this year to present our goods in such a manner as to make clear every detail connected with the selection and growing of a small garden, and to simplify every phase of the undertaking. We wish to appeal to the children by offering some hint as to what we consider practical and attractive gardens and by adding diagrams to help show how to plant them. In order to carry out this idea we have made selections among the seeds, bulbs, etc., and have assembled them into moderate priced collections available to every child. These selections will render continuous bloom in the garden throughout the growing season. We are in position to assure prompt and careful attention in filling your orders.

GUARANTEE

We guarantee the safe delivery of all goods as ordered and will cheerfully replace any such goods as have been damaged through transportation, or otherwise received in poor condition, provided the customer promptly returns the damaged goods for our inspection. Should such an occasion arise, we prefer that the goods be returned in the original package, if not too damaged. After goods have been planted we can make no further adjustment.

QUANTITY

The seed packets do not compete in number of seeds with those offered in our regular catalog. There are just enough to warrant

results necessary for a child's experimental garden, and consequently packets are much lower in price.

We wish you to notice, however, the many varieties of seed offered in our collections for the nominal price we are asking. Remember also that we deliver the goods to your door at the prices given without asking any additional fee for postage.

QUALITY

The articles offered herewith are all chosen from our regular stocks. The stocks which for the past forty years have made our gardens famous the world over. We wish here to make it clear that although the bulbs and hardy roots offered are of the best quality, they are not the largest size available, and although they will produce a perfect bloom, it will not be as large the first year, as that coming from larger and more expensive bulbs or roots. We have selected such stocks as are easy to cultivate. Success with them is practically certain.

TEACHER

We believe that we have overcome this year a great many of the difficulties which have hitherto been experienced in ordering. The previous method of submitting the orders of so many children has been so complex that it was neither satisfactory to us nor to the teacher. This year things have been so simplified that no particular instructions seem necessary at this time. The teacher may either collect the orders of the pupils and send them to us under one cover, or she may distribute the books to the children and allow them to do their ordering from home and through their parents. The teacher who desires to collect orders that will amount to a total of \$3.00 or over, will receive a premium as specified in the large catalog enclosed herewith.

PARENTS

It is our endeavor this year, to have the parents take an interest in the work that the school children are now doing. We are, therefore, allowing these catalogs to go directly to the home so that the parents may help the children to order, and instruct them in the planting of the garden. Parents ordering from our large catalog may include the child's order and if the total amounts to over \$3.00, we shall be glad to send a premium to express our appreciation, as specified in our large catalog. If you send us two order sheets at one time be sure to write name and address on both.

ORDERING

We have arranged our order sheet in such a manner that its use by you will simplify ordering and insure correct interpretation here at the office. Anyone is entitled to order from this booklet on behalf of the children.

This boy grew some fine lettuce

MAKING A GARDEN

Location: Choose, if possible, a location away from the shade of tall buildings or large trees. A spot fully exposed to sun and air is best. Few things will grow well in shade, or where the roots of trees reach out and sap the life and moisture from the soil.

Preparing Soil: Plow or spade thoroughly, use stable manure, wood ashes, humus, or chemical fertilizers, well worked into the soil.

Planting: This should begin early, as soon as the soil is settled and mellow. See planting tables on pages 6 and 9. The more tender sorts may be sown about the time that the new oak leaves are the size of a kitten's ears. All kinds of Cucumbers, Melons and Squashes should be planted a little later. Seek advice from your parents, or others, who may have knowledge of gardening, as to time and manner of sowing seed. In covering seed there is one very good rule to follow: If you cover seed four or five times the depth of its own thickness you will not go far wrong.

Hoeing: Keep the weeds out, and if the surface of the soil is stirred and mellowed, the better will the crops grow; especially during dry weather. In rainy periods, moisture from above settles down and nourishes the plants. In dry times, the surface of the soil soon loses its moisture and plants must depend upon moisture below rising to the surface. This it will do in the form of vapor, if the soil is loose and porous, but, if the top of the soil is baked hard, as well as dry, the circulation of moisture from below is retarded and plants suffer. This is why good farmers keep their cultivators going during dry weather.

In many schools, especially those in cities, there are children who do not have the advantage of a Home Garden. To such the window-box garden should appeal. It is a simple matter to fill some boxes or pots with good soil and have a little window garden. Vegetables, of course, cannot be grown very well this way, except Early Radish, which matures quickly and requires little room. But in flower seeds, there is Alyssum, Carnation, Candytuft, Cal. Poppies, Dwarf Nasturtium, Pansy, Stocks, etc. In bulbs, Tuberoses, Oxalis and Zephyranthes are finely adapted to this purpose.

Flower Seed Collections

We have made up the following collections of choice flower seeds with care so as to include the greatest possible variety in every case. We deliver them to your door, well packed and postage paid. Each collection is packed separately and no collection will be broken.

COLLECTION NO. 1—31 PACKETS FOR \$1.50

This collection contains the popular annual flowers seen in every garden. It also includes some of our best novelties. There is a fine lot of low growing plants for borders, taller ones for backgrounds and the best climbers. We have made a little plan on page 7, showing what a fine, big flower garden this collection will make.

Alyssum	Foxglove	Mxd. Flower Seeds
Aster, Mixed	Gourd, Mixed	Nasturtium
Calliopsis	Gypsophila	Pansy
Candytuft, Dwarf	Helianthus	Poppy
Carnation	Ice Plant	Salpiglossis
Celosia	Job's Tears	Stocks, Abundance
Cosmos, Early Mixed	Jerusalem Cherry	Sweet Pea
Cypress Vine	Kochia, Giant	Sweet William
Dianthus, Pinks	Mignonette	Woolflower
Eschscholtzia	Morning Glory	Zinnia, Giant Mxd.
Fountain Plant		

COLLECTION NO. 2—15 PACKETS FOR 75 CENTS

This is a smaller collection of very choice flowers in good variety. It will make a fine little garden for any child at small cost. It may be combined with one of the vegetable seed collections to make a garden of both flowers and vegetables, thus giving the child valuable experience in growing both flowers and vegetables.

Aster, Mixed	Job's Tears	Pansy
Calliopsis	Kochia, Giant	Poppy
Carnation	Morning Glory	Stocks, Abundance
Cosmos, Early Mxd.	Mxd. Flower Seeds	Sweet Peas
Eschscholtzia	Nasturtium	Sweet William

COLLECTION NO. 3—7 PACKETS FOR 35 CENTS

This little collection contains some of the same fine novelties found in the larger ones and it will make a very showy little garden in small space. There are both low growing and tall flowers in many colors.

Alyssum
Cypress Vine

Salpiglossis
Woolflower
Gypsophila

Helianthus, Aut. Glory
Jerusalem Cherry

COLLECTION NO. 4—7 PACKETS FOR 35 CENTS

In this collection we have put some wonderful gourds that will make fine playthings. All the flowers are extra fine, too.

Fountain Plant
Foxglove

Gourd, Mixed
Mignonette
Ice Plant

Helianthus, Aut. Glory
Jerusalem Cherry

PLANTING TABLE FOR FLOWERS

We have prepared the following table to help you about planting flower seeds. There are three groups of seeds, each requiring a little different treatment; those which should be started indoors and transplanted to the garden after frost; those hardy ones which may be planted very early out of doors, even before the last frost; and the tender sorts which may not be planted out of doors until after all danger of frost is past.

Start Indoors—The following seeds should be started indoors in pots or shallow boxes of earth in April and the young plants put in the garden after frost.

Aster	Cosmos	Woolflower	Kochia	Jerusalem Cherry
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Most Hardy Flowers, Plant Seeds Early—These seeds are very hardy and may be planted right in the garden as soon as it is dry enough, even before the last frosts.

Carnation	Foxglove	Pansy
Candytuft	Sweet Pea	Helianthus
	Dianthus	

More Tender Flowers, Plant after Frost—The following list of seeds do not like cold weather and should be planted in the garden where they are to grow all summer after all danger of frost is past.

Celosia	Job's Tears	Poppy
Calliopsis	Ice Plant	Stocks
Cypress Vine	Gourds	Zinnia
Eschscholtzia	Mignonette	Alyssum
Fountain Plant	Nasturtium	Salpiglossis
Gypsophila	Morning Glory	Mixed Flower Seeds

This illustrates a garden of flowers grown from the seeds offered in collection number one. It will give a maximum yield in a minimum amount of space. The flowers have been arranged for artistic effect with the tall plants in the center, graduating to the low or border plants. Measure off a plot of ground thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide, make a three foot square in each corner of the garden and plant Kochia. Then plant the Gypsophila, Mixed Flower Seeds, Jerusalem Cherry, Job's Tears and Sweet Alyssum. Now the distance between the Kochias at the width of the bed has been filled in. Next fill in the distance between them at the length of the bed. Plant the rows of Asters, Salpiglossis and Mignonette, one foot apart as indicated by this marking—1'—on the diagram. The Helianthus, Cosmos, Sweet Peas and Carnations are planted in rows two feet apart as indicated by this marking—2'. Mark off the space for the Fountain Plant three feet from the Asters and three feet from the Zinnias. Plant the Foxglove, Woolflower and Celosia in equal blocks of four feet in length and three feet in width.

Vegetable Seed Collections

We have arranged four splendid collections of seeds for the vegetable garden, giving a great variety of the best sorts. Any boy or girl who plants and cares for a small vegetable or flower garden is sure to gain much useful knowledge of Nature and her ways, and at very small outlay of money. We pay the postage on all seeds ordered. Order by collection number only. No collection will be broken or altered.

COLLECTION NO. 5—26 PACKETS FOR \$1.25

This is our largest vegetable seed collection and with it you may try almost every good garden vegetable that grows. To make it easy we have put a planting table on the next page which shows when to plant the various seeds, and on page 10 there is a diagram which will help you lay out the garden in the best way.

Bean	White Corn	Onion	Squash
Beet	Cucumber	Peanut	Yellow Corn
Brussels Sprouts	Egg Plant	Pepper	Tomato
Cabbage	Kohl Rabi	Pop Corn	Turnip
Carrot	Lettuce	Pumpkin	Watermelon
Cauliflower	Muskmelon	Radish	
Celery	Okra, or Gumbo	Spinach	

COLLECTION NO. 6—13 PACKETS FOR 65 CENTS

This collection is one-half the size of No. 5 but contains some of the same choice varieties. It makes a well balanced garden when combined with one of the flower seed collections.

Bean	Celery	Onion	Sweet Corn
Beet	Cucumber	Pop Corn	Spinach
Cabbage	Lettuce	Radish	Turnip
Carrot			

COLLECTION NO. 7—7 PACKETS FOR 35 CENTS

This is a small but choice collection of vegetables for the boy or girl who has only a little space for a garden. It includes some of the most delicious vegetables grown.

Brussels Sprouts	Egg Plant	Radish	Tomato
Cucumber	Muskmelon	Sweet Corn	

COLLECTION NO. 8—7 PACKETS FOR 35 CENTS

Another small collection of vegetable seeds for the little garden or for the smaller children. All are very fine.

Carrot	Celery	Cucumber	Squash
Cauliflower	Corn	Tomato	

Planting Table for Vegetables

There are some very tender vegetable seeds and some very hardy ones, just as in the flower seeds and we have listed them here.

Start Indoors—There are a few vegetable seeds in our list that should be started indoors in pots or boxes of soil so as to have strong seedlings for the garden later. Sow the seed thinly and cover lightly with finely sifted soil. When the young plants are large enough to handle they must be thinned out to give them room to grow. Egg Plant should be started in March and transplanted to the garden after settled warm weather. Tomato and Pepper seeds should be started in April. Celery seed may be started in May in shallow boxes where it can be given plenty of water and protected if necessary during germination. The plants will be ready for the garden in July, following a crop of radishes, lettuce, etc.

Most Hardy Vegetables, Plant Seeds Early—The following seeds are very hardy and may be sown in the garden when the ground is dry enough, even before the last frosts.

Radish	Brussels Sprouts	Cabbage
Turnip	Kohl Rabi	Cauliflower
Spinach	Onion	Lettuce

More Tender Vegetables, Plant After Frost—This list of vegetable seeds should not be started in the garden until all danger of frost is past and the weather is settled and warm.

Bean	Watermelon	Beet	Winter Squash
Carrot	Okra, or Gumbo	Pop Corn	Muskmelon
Sweet Corn	Pumpkin	Cucumber	Peanut

These teachers are explaining the use of the cold frame to their pupils.

This diagram illustrates a garden of vegetables grown from seeds offered in collection number five. It will give the maximum yield in a minimum amount of space. The vegetables have been arranged for proper distance apart and succession of crops. There are twenty-one rows as indicated by the numbers on the side of the diagram. Mark off a plot thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide. All of the rows from one to ten inclusive are planted one foot apart as shown by this marking—"1"—on the diagram. Rows ten to nineteen are planted two feet apart—"2". The Pumpkin, Watermelon and Squash are planted in squares of four feet each. Hills two feet apart. "1st sow," "2nd sow," "3d sow," etc., means that this particular vegetable should be sown two or three times during the growing season. The time to make the second sowing is determined by the growth of the first sowing. When the vegetable is about half grown it is time to sow again in order to have the second crop ripe by the time the first crop is used up.

This diagram illustrates a combined flower and vegetable garden grown from the seeds offered in collections 2 and 6. It will give a maximum yield in a minimum amount of space. For those who have limited planting ground a very attractive garden can be made by following this diagram. Mark off a plot 30 feet long and 15 feet wide; make a space 3 feet wide at each end of the bed and fill in with Kochia, leaving a one foot row at the back of the bed to be filled in with California Poppies, Sweet William, Nasturtiums and Pansies. Next mark off little spaces about 2 feet wide and plant all the seed found in the packets of Calliopsis, Carnation, and Job's Tears. Plant the Asters and Stocks in rows one foot apart. The Cosmos should be scattered in a block two feet wide running parallel with the Kochia and the Sweet Peas planted in a row one foot away from the Kochia. The distance apart of the rows of vegetables is indicated in the diagram by these markings (—1'—) and (—2') which mean one and two feet. 1st, 2nd and 3d sow, etc., means that this particular vegetable should be sown several times during the growing season.

Bulbs and Roots in Collections

Bulbs are the easiest of all to care for in the garden and make a wonderful show when in bloom. Any of the following collections will make a fine flower bed but they will show to best advantage when combined with flower seeds in a garden as suggested in the diagram on page 14.

COLLECTION NO. 9—8 BULBS FOR 50 CENTS

Here is a fine mixture of bright flowering bulbs of several kinds all in one collection. The Iris root is a perennial and lives in the garden the year around. The Cannas and Gladioli must be lifted in the fall and put away in the cellar until spring.

Canna, Yellow	Gladiolus, Red	Gladiolus, Primulinus
Canna, Red	Gladiolus, Yellow	Iris, Mxd. Colors
Canna, Spotted	Gladiolus, Pink	

COLLECTION NO. 10—6 ROOTS FOR 50 CENTS

This collection includes Cannas of almost every good color. It will make a good sized bed of very tall, showy flowers all summer with little care. This collection would make a fine center for the garden shown in the diagram on page 14.

Canna, Scarlet	Canna, Yellow	Canna, White
Canna, Pink	Canna, Orange	Canna, Spotted

COLLECTION NO. 11—5 ROOTS AND BULBS FOR 25 CENTS

Here is a little collection of bright summer flowers at a little price. Any child will enjoy caring for them.

Canna, Scarlet	Gladiolus, Red	Gladiolus, Yellow
Canna, Pink	Gladiolus, Blue	

COLLECTION NO. 12—5 BULBS FOR 25 CENTS

Four very pretty flowering bulbs, all different and a fine climbing vine that will cover a porch or trellis in a short time. This is one of the finest small collections.

Madeira Vine	Cooperia	Zephyranthes
Tuberose	Hyacinthus	

COLLECTION NO. 13—6 BULBS FOR 25 CENTS

This collection of six Gladiolus bulbs of different colors will make a very showy row of tall flowers and the price is so small that any child may have it.

Gladiolus, Pink	Gladiolus, Blue	Gladiolus, Salmon
Gladiolus, Red	Gladiolus, Yellow	Gladiolus, Childs

Roots, Bulbs and Plants

We offer here small collections of various good things for the flower garden at very moderate prices so that children may have them for their little gardens. We give the number of articles in each collection and the price. Any collection will be sent to your door without extra charge for postage. No collection will be broken.

- 14 **Ajuga Reptans**—Perennial. Low plant with blue flowers... 5 for 55c
- 15 **Asparagus**—Delicious, early garden vegetable 6 for 50c
- 16 **Holtonia**—Perennial. Masses of white blossoms..... 5 for 50c
- 17 **Cooperia**—White lily-like flowers for garden or pots..... 6 for 50c
- 18 **Cinnamon Vine**—Hardy vine with fragrant flowers..... 12 for 30c
- 19 **Caladium, Fancy Leaved**—Houseplant with beautiful foliage. 25c each
- 20 **Dahlia, Cactus**—Large blossoms with quilled petals..... 20c each
- 21 **Dahlia, Decorative**—Broad petaled flowers of great size... 20c each
- 22 **Dahlia, Show**—Beautiful large, round flowers..... 20c each
- 23 **Floral Park Lawn Grass**—The finest grass seed mixture... 1 pt., 20c
- 24 **Hyacinthus, Candicans**—Tall spikes of white flowers..... 6 for 50c
- 25 **Iris, Mixed Colors**—Well known perennial, blooms in May.. 6 for 50c
- 26 **Lythrum**—Perennial. Four feet tall with pink flowers... 2 for 30c
- 27 **Madeira Vine**—Rapid growing climber. Fragrant..... 6 for 50c
- 28 **Oxalis, Shamrock**—Beautiful pink flowers for garden or pots. 6 for 10c
- 29 **Oxalis, Lasandria**—Bright pink flowers 6 for 10c
- 30 **Oxalis, Dicpi**—White flowers. Blooms quickly..... 6 for 10c
- 31 **Peanuts**—Easily grown by a child. Grows like potatoes. 1 pt., 25c
- 32 **Potato, Farmer**—Splendid new sort for the garden..... 6 for 30c
- 33 **Rudbeckia, Golden Glow**—Eight feet tall with masses of golden flowers. 5 for 50c
- 34 **Resurrection Plant**—A beautiful curiosity, not to be planted. Dry and dead looking, but unfolds and turns green when put in water 10c each
- 35 **Strawberry, Progressive**—Everbearing. Large berries in summer and fall 5 for 25c
- 36 **Strawberry, Big Joe**—One of the largest and finest..... 5 for 25c
- 37 **Tuberose**—Spikes of double, white fragrant flowers..... 6 for 55c
- 38 **Zephyranthes**—Mixed colors. Like beautiful lilies..... 6 for 50c
- 39 **Two Booklets**—"How to Grow Flowers" and "How to Grow Vegetables." Very helpful to children..... Both books for 5c

NOTE—Strawberry Plants will be sent at proper planting time.

Madeira Vine

This diagram illustrates a combined Seed and Bulb Garden, using Collections numbered 2, 9, 10 and 25. This is one of the easiest flower gardens to care for and will make a very attractive display. Mark off a plot 30 feet long and 15 feet wide; make a 4 foot square in each corner of the garden and plant Kochia. Then plant the Calliopsis and Sweet Peas in spaces 2 feet wide, and the Cosmos in a space 4 feet wide. Now the distance between the Kochias at the width of the bed has been filled in. Next fill in the distance between them at the length of the bed. Plant the Pansies, Carnations, Job's Tears and Asters in blocks one foot wide. Do the same with the California Poppies, Nasturtiums and Stocks. The Iris and Gladioli should be planted in the center of the spaces 2 feet wide as indicated in the diagram by this mark—2'. The space left will accommodate 10 or 12 Canna bulbs if planted in rows. This will leave ample room for cultivation of all the bulbs.

John Lewis Childs, Inc., Floral Park, N. Y.

Home and School Gardening for Children

ORDER BLANK 1923

In the box space at the left mark how many of each collection you wish. At the right hand side and bottom of each column place the total cost of collections ordered. No collection will be broken.

Name

Co. P. O.

St. and No. State.....

1. Flow. Sds. 31 pkts., \$1.50	21. Dahlia, Dec., 20c each
2. Flower Sds., 15 pkts., 75c	22. Dahlia, Show 20c each
3. Flower Sds., 7 pkts., 35c	23. Lawn Grass, 1 pt., 20c
4. Flower Sds., 7 pkts., 35c	24. Hyacinthus, 6 for 50c
5. Veg. Sds., 26 pkts., \$1.25	25. Iris, Mixed, 6 for 50c
6. Veg. Sds., 13 pkts., 65c	26. Lythrum 2 for 30c
7. Veg. Sds., 7 pkts., 35c	27. Madeira Vine 6 for 50c
8. Veg. Sds., 7 pkts., 35c	28. Oxalis Sham., 6 for 10c
9. Bulbs, 8 for 50c	29. Oxalis, Lasan., 6 for 10c
10. Roots, 6 for 50c	30. Oxalis, Dieppi, 6 for 10c
11. Roots, Bulbs 5 for 25c	31. Peanuts, 1 pt., 25c
12. Bulbs 5 for 25c	32. Potato, Farmer, 6 for 30c
13. Bulbs 6 for 25c	33. Rudbeckia, 5 for 50c
14. Ajuga Rep., 5 for 55c	34. Resur. Plant, 10c each
15. Asparagus, 6 for 50c	35. Strawby., Prog., 5 for 25c
16. Boltonia, 5 for 50c	36. Stwby., Big Joe, 5 for 25c
17. Cooperia, 6 for 50c	37. Tuberose, 6 for 55c
18. Cinnam'n Vine, 12 for 30c	38. Zephyranthes, 6 for 50c
19. Caladium, 25c each	39. Two Booklets, (both) 5c
20. Dahlia, Cactus, 20c each	
Cost	Total amount of money sent, \$

**2 Fine Seed Novelties
FREE With Every Order
Amounting to \$3.00 or More
Received Before May 15, 1923**

Procured Especially For This Offer

**ANTIRRHINUM REINDEER
(Snapdragon)**

The Snapdragons are now counted among the finest garden flowers for cutting and Reindeer is the largest flowered of the half dwarf sorts. It is a novelty of outstanding merit, in color a beautiful terra cotta pink suffused with delicate pale yellow.

CENTAUREA CYANUS, ALBA

This is the newest thing in the Cyanus group, as it is pure white including the center. One of the most popular of early garden flowers, blooming till frost. Each plant produces scores of flowers on long wiry stems and are exceedingly graceful, and they are unsurpassed for cutting. Both the Antirrhinum and Centaurea are easily grown from seed outdoors and will bloom profusely all Summer.

Only one of these offers, either Seed or Dahlias, given on each order

ALSO NOTE OFFER ON OTHER SIDE

RETURN COUPON—TEAR OFF HERE

FREE SEED COUPON

For each separate order from this Catalogue received before May 15, 1923, amounting to \$3.00 or more, we will show our appreciation by sending absolutely free and postpaid one packet of seed each of Antirrhinum and Centaurea as described above.

***This Coupon must be
returned with the order***

**JOHN LEWIS CHILDS, Inc.,
Floral Park, N. Y.**

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3 Fine Dahlias

FREE With Every Order

Amounting to \$10.00 or More
Received Before May 15, 1923

These Dahlias were grown at our Flowerfield Estate from our own selected seed. When in bloom last Summer they showed a wonderful range of colors and every variety of form including the large Peony-flowered, Cactus, Pompon, Decorative and Collaret types. Many of them are of distinct merit and worthy of introduction, never having been offered before by anyone. Some of the rarest and highest priced sorts seen at the flower shows were produced in this way. The tubers we send will all have live eyes and with ordinary care will flower abundantly this Summer. They are easy to grow.

Only one of these offers given on each order

ALSO NOTE OFFER ON OTHER SIDE

RETURN COUPON--TEAR OFF HERE

3 DAHLIAS FREE

For each separate order from this Catalogue received before May 15, 1923, amounting to \$10.00 or more, we will show our appreciation by sending absolutely free and postpaid three fine Dahlia roots as described above.

*This Coupon must be
returned with the order*

JOHN LEWIS CHILDS, Inc.
Floral Park, N. Y.

May

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N. Y.

A well-planned group of individual School Gardens.

A Teacher instructing her class in laying out and planting a garden.