



# PLANTS NEED FRIENDS TOO!

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“Snuggle close, little bean. Let me tell you a story . . . A story about a garden, and how friends working together helped a new plant find a home.”





Beneath a swirl of buzzing bees and fluttering butterflies lies Companion Patch – home to ...



**Mari**  
the golden  
marigold

**Tumble**  
the cheeky  
tomato

**Buddy**  
the bushy  
basil

**Olga**  
the smelly  
onion

**Curly**  
the shy little  
carrot

**Sonny**  
the cheery  
sunflower

A colourful patch of plant of friends – helping one another grow big, strong, happy and healthy.



**Tumble** the **tomato** grows big and fruity, providing Buddy the basil with shade from the midday sun.



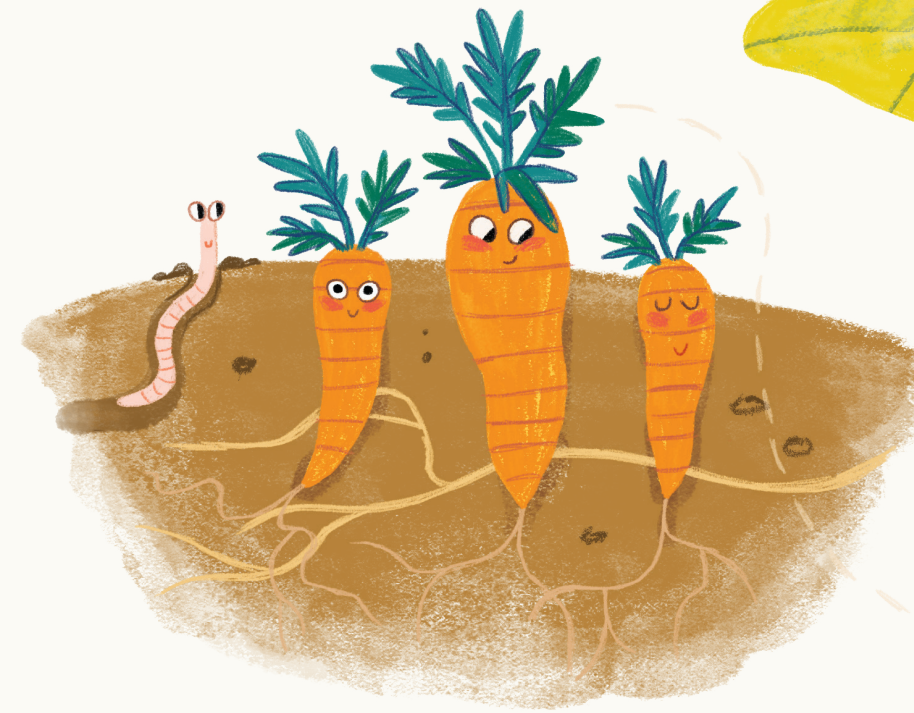
In return, **Buddy** the **basil** helps Tumble's fruit grow sweet and tasty.

**Mari** the **marigold** watches over them both, her strong smell keeping pesky bugs away from their leaves.

**Sonny** the **sunflower** grows tall, blocking the sun when it's too hot for Curly the carrot.



**Curly** the **carrot** digs deep to let water and air reach Sonny's roots.



And **Olga** the **onion's** stinky bulb keeps sneaky flies away from Curly's toes.



**Together, they make the perfect team.**



## Keep an eye out for the sneaky beetles . . .



As you read the story again, see if you can spot the sneaky beetles after Squish's seed drops into the garden. How many can you find hiding among the leaves and flowers?

**For my little acorn – J.W.**

**To my girls – for the endless good times,  
support and growing together. – R.G.**

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