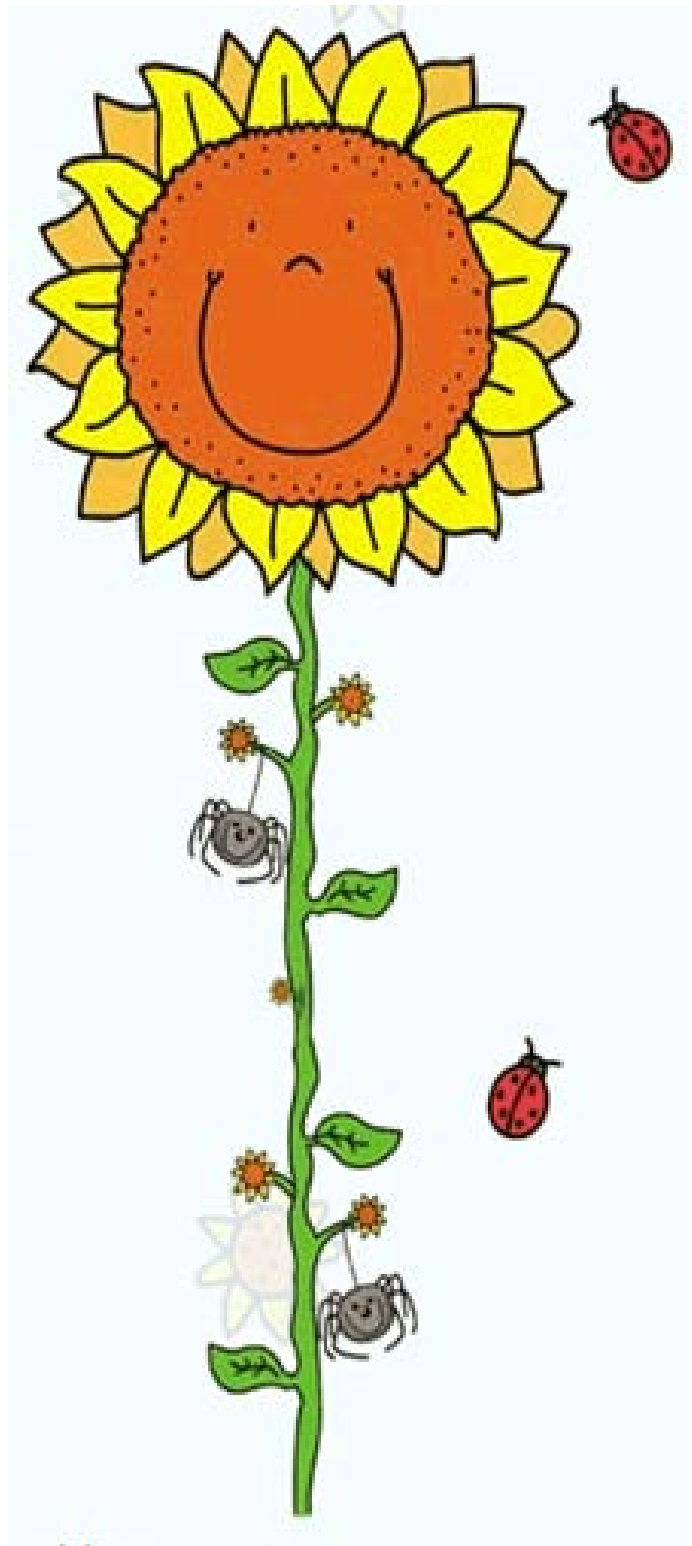


# The Great Sunflower Challenge

2020

9<sup>th</sup> Bangor (St Gall's)  
Scout Group



# The Great Sunflower Challenge

## What is it?

The Great Sunflower Challenge is a 9th Bangor (St Gall's) Scout Group Competition for all members including Squirrels / Beaver Scouts / Cub Scouts / Scouts / Explorer Scouts / Scout Network / Occasional Helpers / Sectional Assistants / Group Executive Members / Group Supporters.

Competitions are normally run over a day or weekend with teams of Young People participating in different challenges throughout the day – this challenge / competition will be run over a number of months and I want to involve as many Young People and Adults as possible.

## When will it run from?

The Great Sunflower Challenge will run from **1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

## How do we join in?

Easy, just take photographs and keep records of how tall your sunflower grows.

Send a photograph (with you standing beside your sunflower) and details of how high to Simon Brown (Group Scout Leader) on or before **15<sup>th</sup> October 2020** otherwise all your handiwork will not be included in the judging.

## How much does it cost?

There are no registration costs!

## What are age Groups?

The completion will be split into different age brackets (with prizes for each)

- Squirrels
- Beaver Scouts
- Cub Scouts
- Scouts
- Explorer Scouts
- Scout Network
- Over 25s

## How do I measure my sunflower?

The sunflower needs to be measured from where it comes out of the soil to the top of the last petal on the flower.

## How do I grow a sunflower?

There are instructions on the next page on how to plant, grow and look after your sunflower

## GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN!!

If you have any queries please let me know

Simon Brown (Group Scout Leader)

[gsl9thbangor@countydownscouts.org.uk](mailto:gsl9thbangor@countydownscouts.org.uk)





## Sunflower growing instructions

In a hot summer it can take only 60 days from sowing the sunflower seeds to the flowers blooming! How tall can you grow yours?

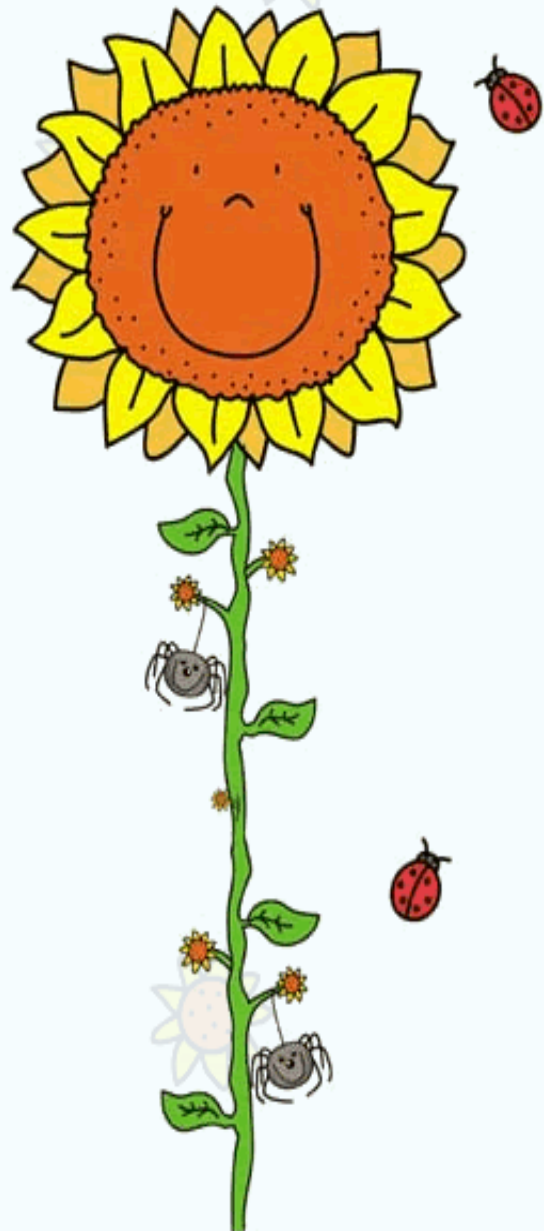
You can either plant your seeds directly into the garden from April or, to get really tall plants you could plant them earlier indoors - anytime from March onwards.

### To sow outdoors

- Sow thinly, 12 mm (1/2 inch) deep in drills 30cm (12 inches) apart
- The soil should be well composted and raked finely
- Germination takes only 21 days
- When large enough to handle - thin the seedlings to 30cm (12 inches) apart

### To sow indoors - for earlier flowering

- Use 7.5cm (3inch) pots (yoghurt pots would be ideal) and a good sowing compost
- Plant one seed per pot - about one inch deep
- Add some water to the pot
- Cover with polythene to retain the heat
- Remove the cover when leaves appear
- When the seedlings are large enough to be handled re-pot them, or plant them outside when all risk of frost has passed. The seedlings would prefer to be acclimatised gradually to life outside. They prefer a sunny open site, but will grow in most sites and soils.
- To really thrive they will need plenty of direct sun and good drainage
- When the 2nd set of leaves appear you can feed them once a week for three weeks and then once a fortnight
- All your sunflower plants will need to be staked, and tied so that they grow tall and strong. To do this, tie them every six inches with soft ties
- Remember - your plants can grow up to 12 inches every day



Happy growing!