

**National Garden Club's
Youth Poetry Contest
2023-24**



“I Spy Something Green...”

Poems written by Students of Massachusetts

Grades 1-7

Sponsored by the

Garden Clubs Federation of Massachusetts



The National Garden Club annually sponsors a Youth Poetry Contest to excite and encourage our Youth to express and explore their creative thoughts through different types of poetry. NGC's Poetry Contest enables our Youth to embrace their creativity through the art of writing. Children Kindergarten through 9th grade are eligible to enter.

The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts as a Member of the National Garden Club participated in this year's Youth Poetry Contest. The 2023-24 theme was *I Spy With My Little Eye, Something Green Outside- Celebrating Our Green World*. 83 Poems were entered from students in grades 1-7. The GCFM is proud to congratulate this year's winners. The winning poems have been compiled in this booklet. Congratulations to all our winners!

Marjorie Dienhart, GCFM President

Nancy Martin, Youth Poetry Contest Chairman

Youth Poetry Contest Committee

Mary Bandoverers, Ruth Evans, and Lina Cardillo Platzer

Grade 1

1st Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts
New England Regional 1st Place Winner
National Garden Club Honorable Mention

Things I see in the Garden

By Benjamin Sawyer, North Reading

Green

Rabbits

Apples

Sun

Soggy

Grade 2

1st Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts
1st Place Winner New England Regional
1st Place Winner National Garden Club

Spring Green

by Melanie Dean, Westborough

Sunny sunlight in the night.

Pulling weeds; planting seeds.

Riding my bike is something I like.

It will be my birthday.

Not a single speck of snow.

Great! It's Spring!

Grade 3

1st place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Three Poems

By Jayleigh, Student at Barbieri School

Octopuses are purple.
Clean water I see.
Everything is blue and green.
Anything is real.
Never forget the ocean is here.

Wind is strong.
Anything is possible.
Tears are clear.
Everything is water.
Round buckets of water I see.

Seas are blue.
Elephants are gray.
Anything I see is a color.

2nd Place Garden Club Federation Of Massachusetts

I Love Green

by Edvin, a Student at Barbieri School

Little green frog saw a dog.
The dog said you can't hop as fast as me.
The little frog hopped way faster than the dog.
I thought you couldn't do that said the dog.
Well I can said the little green frog.
How said the dog.
Nevermind said the frog.

3rd Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Winter Greens

By Phoebe Noland, Westborough, Sudbury

G: *Grass as far as the eye can see,
grass covered by winter snow, so sad to me*

R: *Red ornaments on the evergreen,
covering up the needles I've seen*

E: *Each and every tree I see,
brings such a joy to me*

E: *Evergreen trees tall and small,
They'll be picked eventually to be someone's Christmas tree*

N: *Nature so green, as you may have seen, grass growing green in your yard,
tree leaves falling everywhere, take care of our earth while you are still there.*

Grade 4

1st Place Garden Club of Massachusetts
1st Place New England Regional Garden Club

A Walk Through the Garden

by Joseph Buteau, Sharon

A ladybug flying across the sky,
It's so fast, and beautiful to the eye,
A butterfly pollinating the flowers,
Nature has many unknown powers,
An ant climbing into an anthill,
Their powerful jaws are mini drills,
A spider catches a tasty fly,
It sees it as a scrumptious pie,
A slug walking through the greens,
Biting on lettuce as the poor vegetable screams,
A buzzing bee sucking up nectar,
Enjoying its viscous texture,
Nature is amazing,
And honestly lifesaving.

2nd Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Seeing a Year in Color

by Brooke Leahy, North Reading

My beautiful green world
throughout the year

Crisp white snow everywhere
Except for green lichens growing on the trees

Escaping the cold during school vacation
to palm trees and lime green iguanas

Searching in the fields for four-leaf clovers
Hiding Easter eggs in budding bushes

Gifting mom a green hydrangea
To plant outside on Mother's Day

Planting seeds to enjoy our future veggies

Watching the pond frogs leap on lily pads

Picking home-grown cucumbers for dinner

Climbing the strongest tree for Granny Smith

Jade leaves changing fiery red and orange

Eating farmers-market green beans
for Thanksgiving Dinner

Picking the perfect fir
At the Christmas Tree Farm

New beauty found in each month.

3rd Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

Can you Guess the answer?

By Adam Santana, Noerth Reading

I spy with my little eye something green outside.
You can find this something world wide.

On a sunny day it can provide shade
It can make shadows and make you afraid.

It provides oxygen so people can be alive
Without it we could not survive.

Some of those provide food.
To make us in a good mood.

During all the seasons, there are many different colors
My favorite is green
When it's windy it can lean.

There are 70,000 types of these
Some of them make my dad sneeze.

They grow branches and leaves,
If you guessed it correctly,
It was trees.

Honorable Mention

The Flower Garden

By Hazal, a student at Barbieri School, Framingham

Forget all of the cold snow
Listen there is a lot you need to know
Outside where the snow used to be
Where it was too chilly for you and me
Everybody come out here
Rainbows have started to appear!

Grass grows taller than before
All of the weeds fall to the floor
Rain stops falling to the ground
Days are still coming round
Everything is fresh and new
Now I can play with you!

Grade 5

1st Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

A little green when you're feeling blue

By Tessa, a student at Barbieri School, Framingham

I wake up at 7 on a normal March day,
I look out the window and the sky is gray.
I slowly get dressed and eat my food,
Going to school really hurts my mood.
I grab my backpack and say bye to my dad,
Then I open the door still feeling sad.
I look down and what do I see?
A little green poking up to greet me!
All of a sudden I'm feeling great!
I know that spring is soon in my fate!
No more jackets, hats and gloves.
Bring on flowers, green grass and bugs!
Instead of being glum,
I jump, skip and run.
Today is a great day!

2nd Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

I look to the future

By Myosi, a student at Barbieri School, Framingham

I look to the future and all I see
Is nothing that makes me feel like me

So I close my eyes and take a breath
and imagine a future that is the best

I imagine a green world full of colorful plants
and warm winds and happiness, what a glance!

I see a beehive with beautiful bees
getting pollen from flowers near the trees

There is one more thing that I forgot
Something I wish happened a lot

I see a community that cares for others
yes there are bad times but we help each other

3rd Place Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts

The Apple Orchard

By Beatrice, a student at Barbieri School, Framingham

I sniff in the crisp fall air
And the cool breeze
Sweeps through my hair

Twisting apples off the trees
CRUNCH!
Say the October leaves

Apple cider, warm or cold
Always shines
That beautiful gold

Honey sticks
Gentle licks
So perfect

I look up,
At the trees
There are just so many things to see!

Our reward, when we are done,
Is sweet, crunchy, juicy
Apples on my tongue.

Honorable Mention

A broken tree

by Mateo, a student of Barbieri School, Framingham

A broken tree

I spy with my little eye a tree

a broken tree on a stormy school day

lightning bolts striking

hard rain falling.

Grade 7
1st Place Garden Club of Federation of Massachusetts

Spring and Summer

by Isabella Calvo, Framingham

Grass is growing
Rivers are flowing
Opening flowers bud
Wet gobs of mud
It is spring
Not Long till' summer
Gone away is winter

Fun unending exploration
Lost in endless imagination
Out in the open air
White roses tall and fair
Everything's green
Right in the sun
Summer is fun