

Plants can grow from more than just seeds. Let's look at some of these ways you can grow plants.

### CUTTINGS

Many plants can be started from cuttings (pieces of a bigger plant). A good place to make a cutting is from one of the growing points of the plant (stem-tip). Some plants like begonias and African violets can be started from a single leaf! Just keep the cutting in moist soil and in gentle sunlight (not too bright or it will dry out) and in a couple of weeks roots and a new shoot will form – and you have a new plant!

### BULBS and CORMS

Most of the big flowers that are well-loved for their springtime beauty in places where snow covers the ground in the winter grow from bulbs and corms. These plants come up soon after the snow melts in the spring sunshine, and before the trees get their leaves. This means they have lots of sun to let them photosynthesize and have energy to make fruits and seeds, and to fatten up their bulbs again, and grow more little bulbs underground for more plants next year.

We will plant a bulb for you to take home and watch it grow. Keep the soil moist and in a few weeks you can have your own little Crocus plant. Crocuses are the very first flower to come up in the garden in a Michigan spring, often before the snow is totally gone. Their yellow stamens (inside the flower) are used as saffron, a spice that is used to give a yellow color to rice.

Bulb size usually corresponds to the size of the plant that grows from it. Can you match the plants with their bulbs below? Draw a line from each plant to the bulb from which it grows. Color the plants and their flowers with pretty colors and complete your drawing with other things.

daffodil

crocus

tulip

hyacinth