

The Watermelon Seed

Written by Laura Hinton Smith

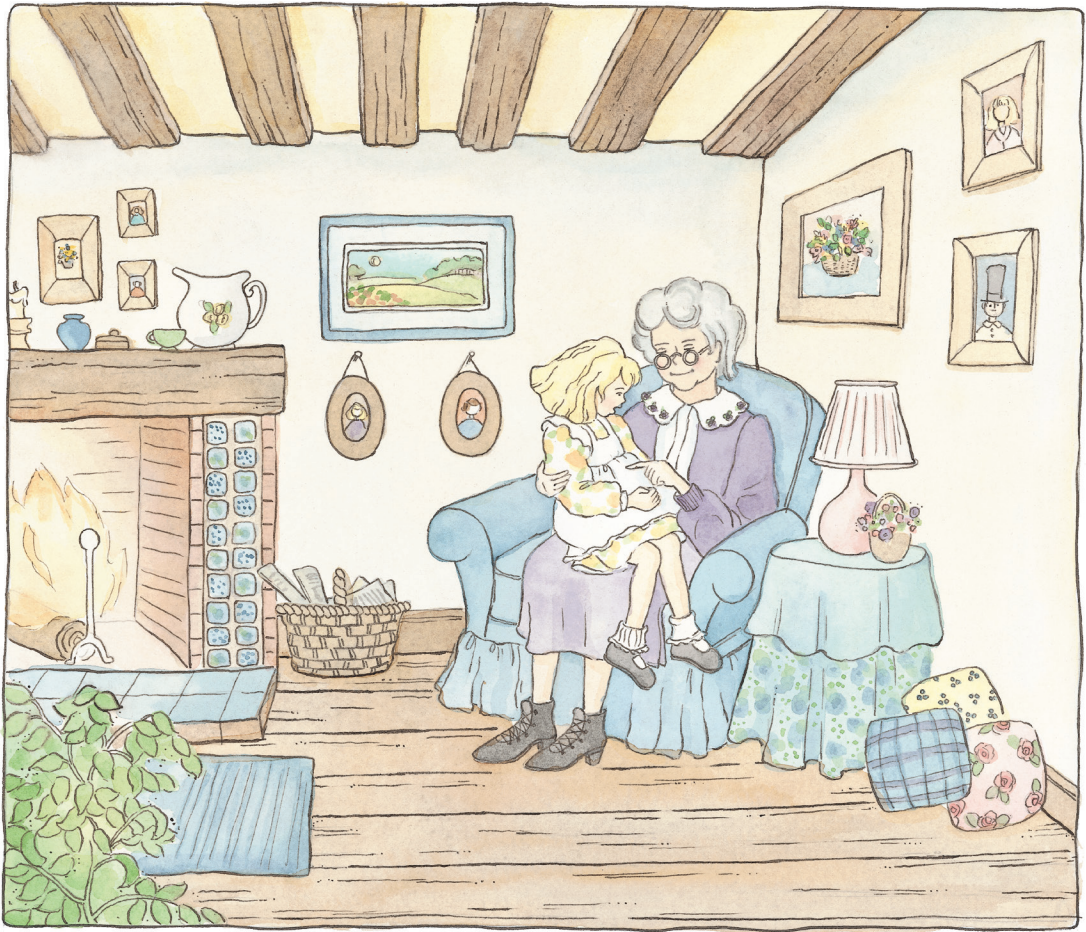
Illustrated by Suzanne Smith



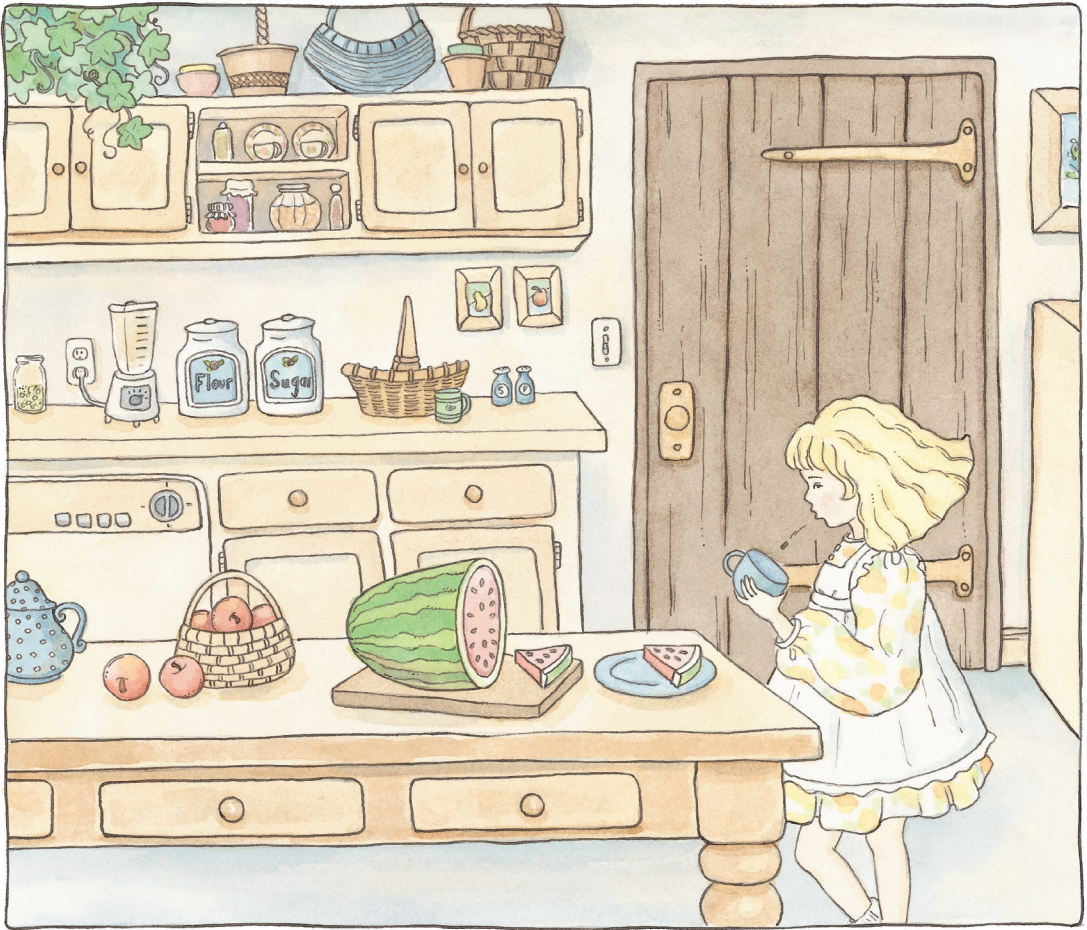
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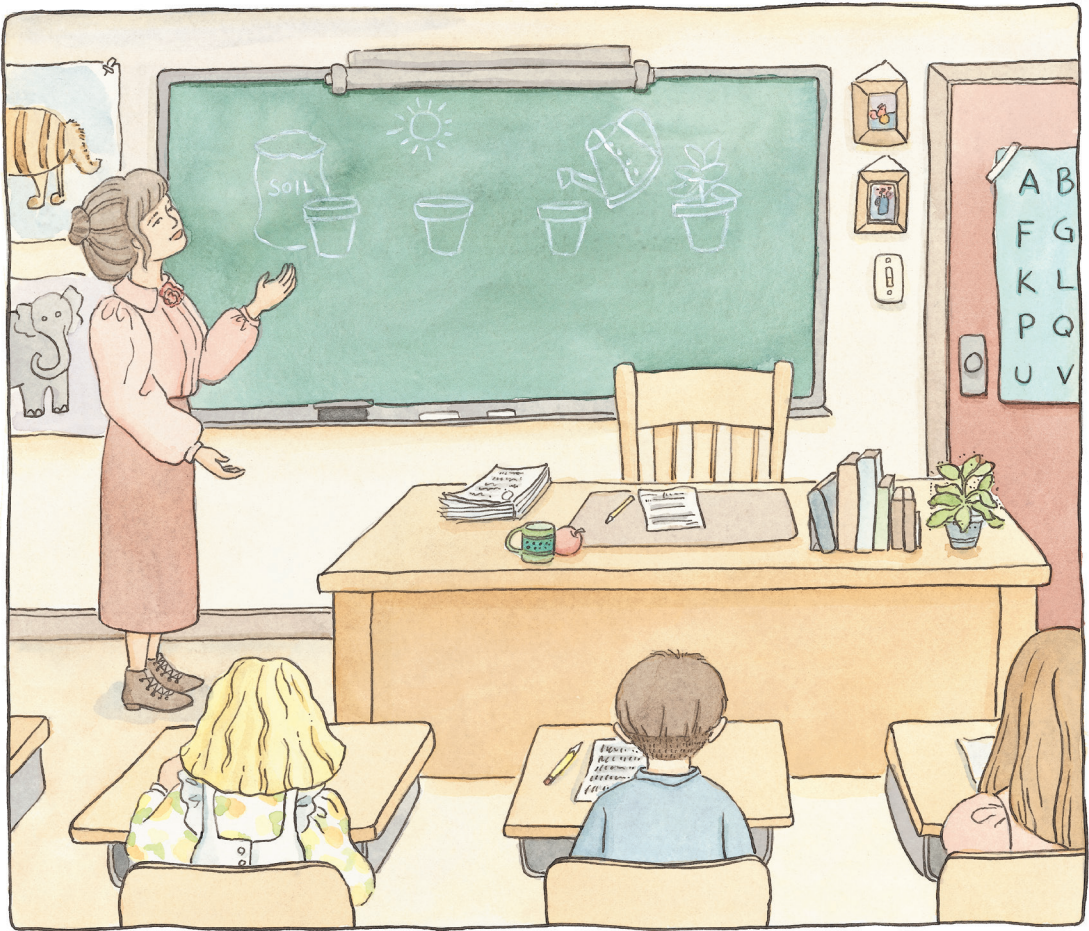
When I was little, Grandma would tell me that if I swallowed a watermelon seed, I would grow a watermelon plant in my tummy.



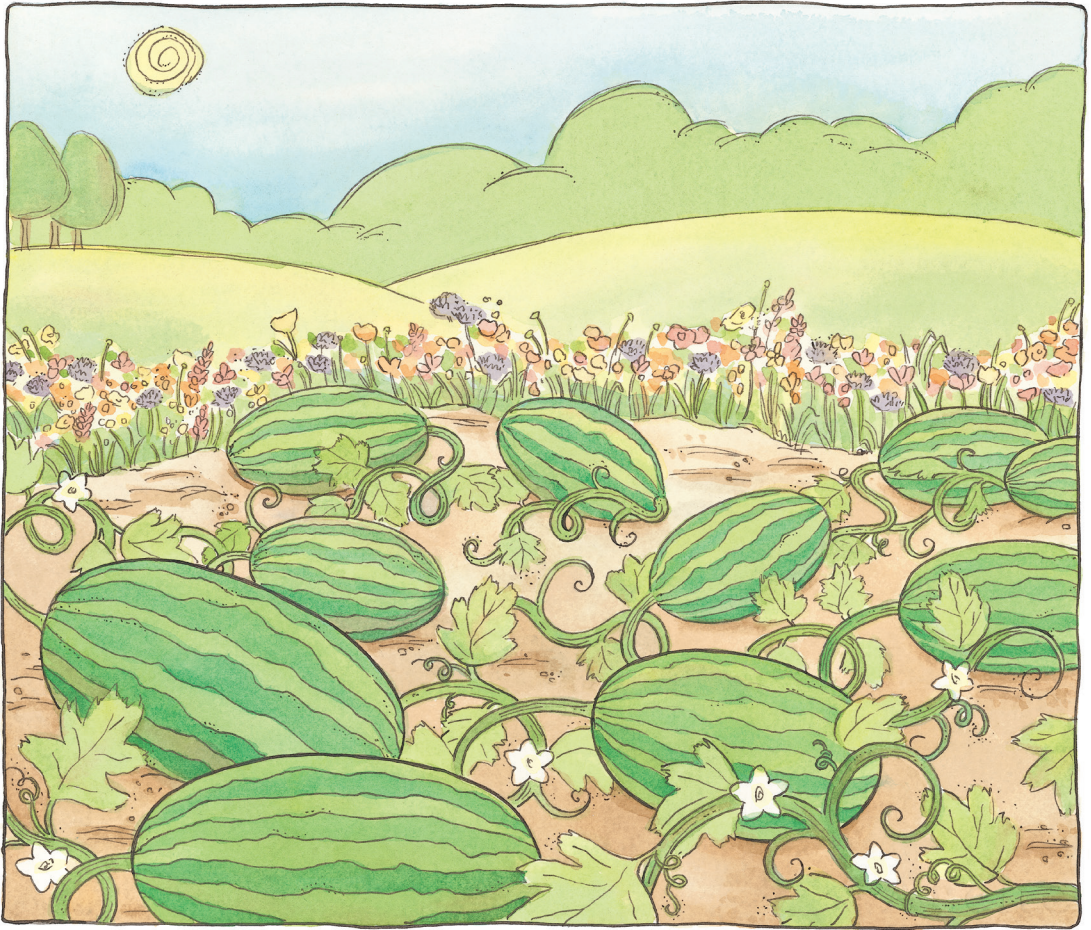
This used to worry me. I would be careful to spit out all of the seeds when I ate watermelon.



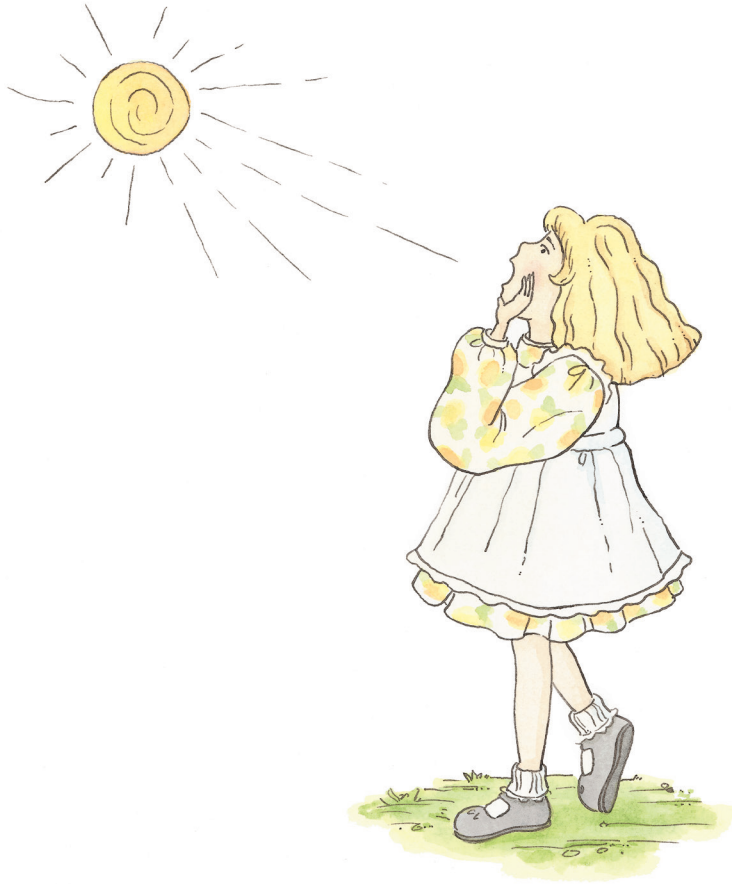
Once in a while, I would accidentally swallow a seed! I would start to feel sick. I could imagine the vines starting to grow out of my ears.



But then at school I learned that a plant needs soil in order to grow. I don't have soil in my stomach. I'm too old to eat dirt anymore.



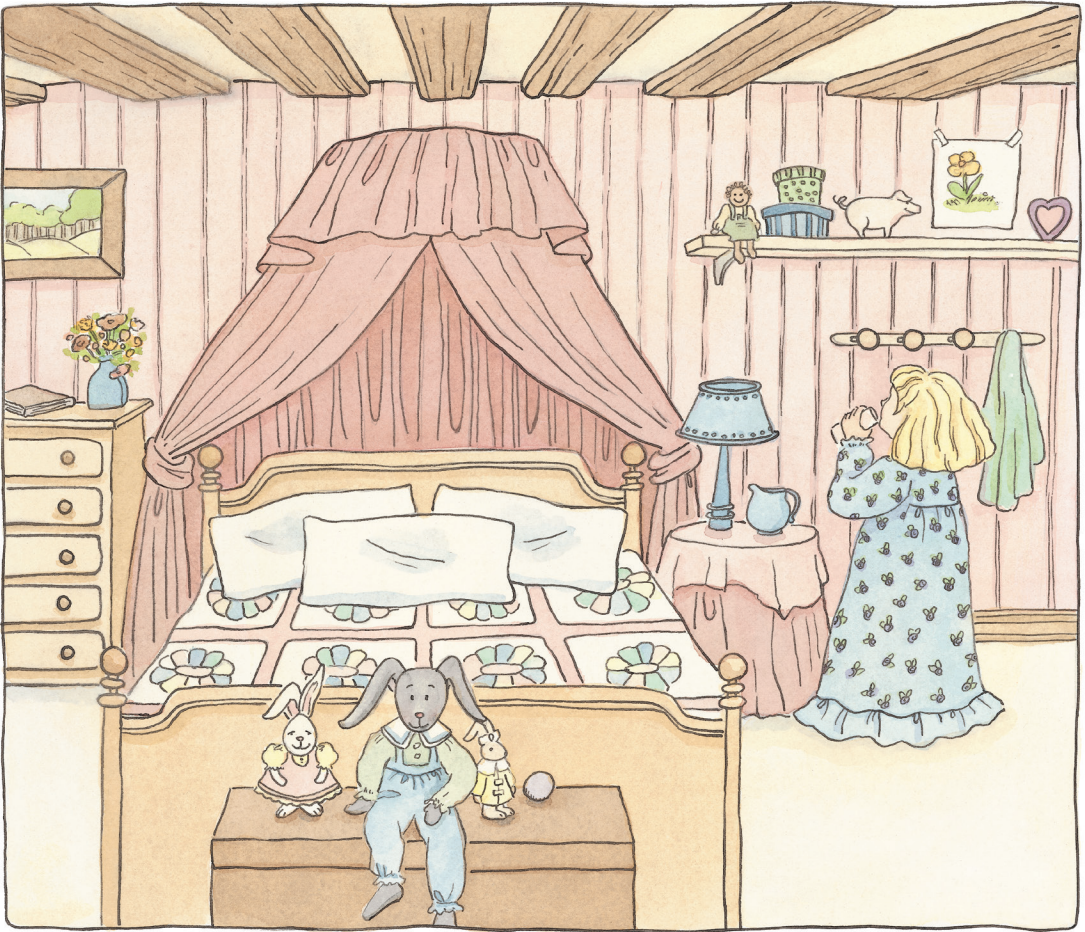
Next I learned that a plant needs sunshine to help it grow.



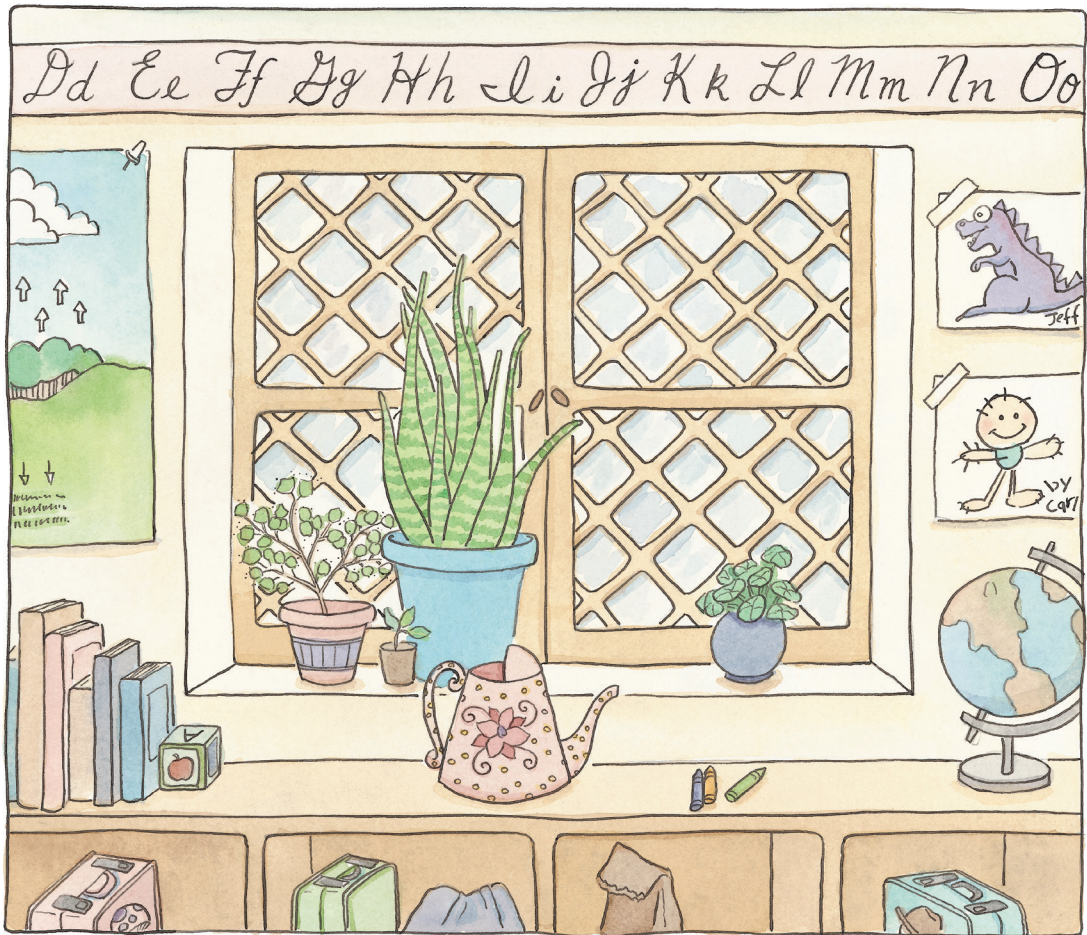
Sometimes, when I yell really loud, my mouth opens wide and lets in some sunshine. But I don't think it makes it all the way down into my stomach.



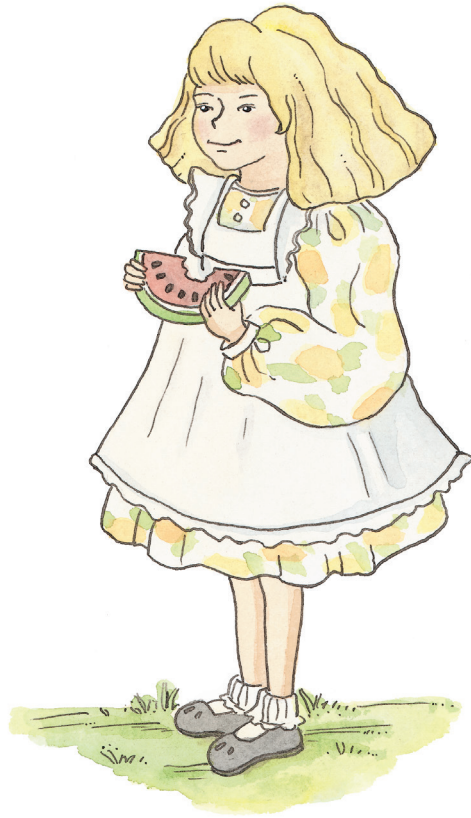
Then I learned that a plant needs water to help it grow.



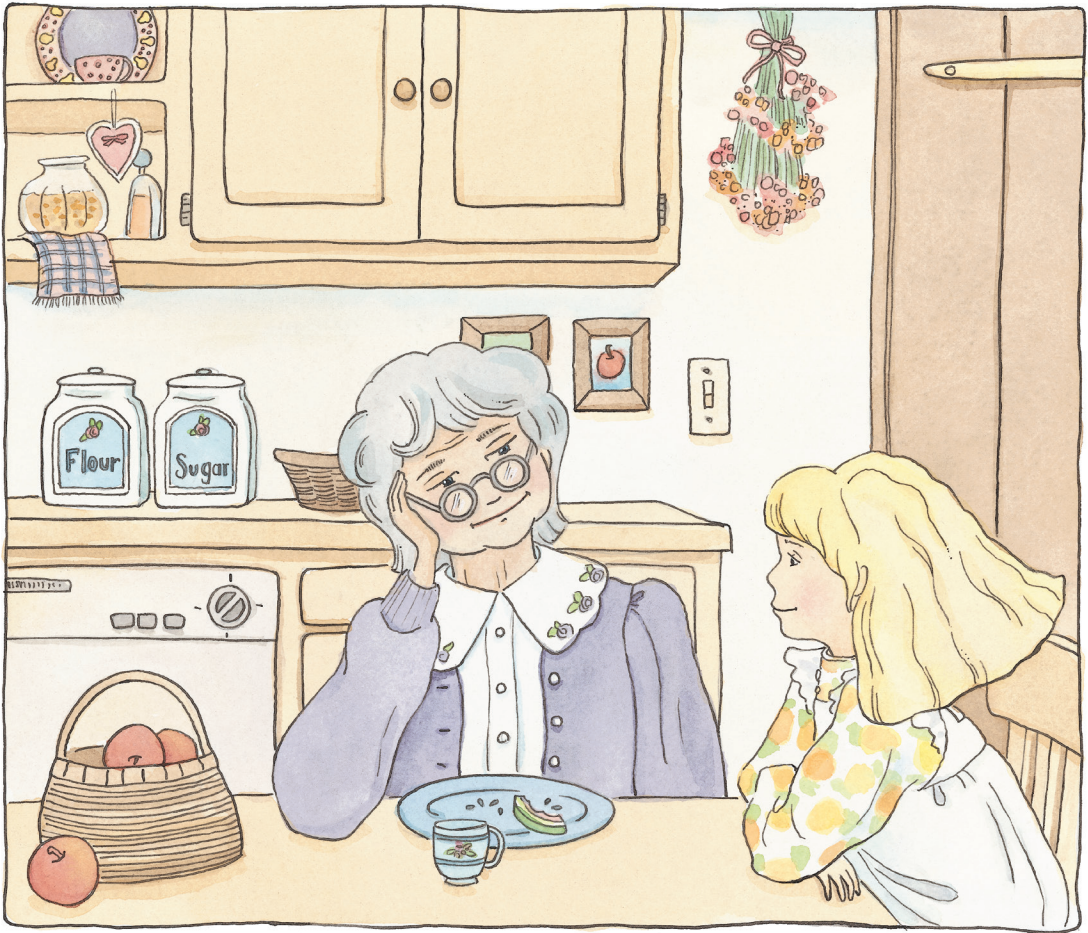
This used to worry me a little bit because I like to have a glass of water each night before I go to bed.



My teacher says that for a plant to grow, it needs soil, light, and water.



Now I don't worry anymore because I know what it takes to grow a plant, and my stomach is just not the right place!



So now that I know better, when Grandma tells me that I could grow a watermelon in my tummy, I just smile because I know she's just teasing me.

Reading

Read-along 15

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