Gardening on a Rainy Day

It’s a little too early to plant outside, but, you can start some plants inside...

What plants? Well, here is where you need to take a look in the kitchen.

If you find an orange or a lemon, take the seeds out, fill a pot with potting soil and plant three or four seeds about one inch deep. Keep your soil moist...and be patient. They should sprout within 2 to 4 weeks. Once the seedlings have appeared, keep them watered and when the summer weather begins place them in a sunny location outside...you will not see any fruit at the end of the growing period, but you will be able to appreciate the smell when you rub the leaves.

Have you found an avocado? Ask a parent if you can have the pit. Let the pit dry on the counter for a day or two. Then you will need a glass and three toothpicks (the wooden kind work best). Carefully poke the toothpicks into the pit around the middle so that you can rest the toothpicks on the rim of the glass. Fill the glass with water up to the bottom of the avocado pit. Be patient. You will see the pit sprouting roots in about a month and a half. Transfer your seed with roots to potting soil and watch it grow!

Any extra carrots in the refrigerator? Ask if you can slice the carrot about 1 and ½ inches from the top. Take this piece and place it in a saucer or shallow container. You want to stand the end up and add water up to just below the top. It will take a week or two, but you should see new green sprouts. Transfer your carrot top to a pot with potting soil and watch it grow!

Source: Christine Saplin, CCE Albany County Master Gardener