Gardening with Children of all Ages
Create safety in nature – help children be comfortable with bees

Wear light colored clothing and no perfume.
Use soft voices and easy movements.
Know that bees are sipping nectar and in their bliss, ignore us.
Without bees, our planet would be dust in four years.
Create safety around new foods

Children describe food with descriptive terms instead of like and dislike.

Use color, flavor, and textural descriptions.

Sweet, salty, sour, savory, and bitter.

Have calm faces, calm thoughts, and calm words.

Don't try a new food until you're ready.
Tools compensate for children's lack of strength and coordination.
It all takes time.
Don't go it alone

Beattie Garden Family Nights March through October

Family's Sign-up for weekly watering

Drop-in Garden Camp with the Summer Library Program

Karen's Kids on Fridays during the School Year

Service groups from LPS, the University, Scouts, Churches, Master Gardeners, and Master Naturalists
Children use all of their senses to experience a garden
Go easy on the volunteers and feed them.

In an organic garden we still use some chemicals:
Roundup on pathways.
Snapshot everywhere except the vegetable garden.
Bt on cabbage family plants.
Tenacity on buffalo grass.
Powdered eight at the base of cucurbits.
Gloves welcome and allow the Mr. Roger's transition to the neighborhood.
Fruits and vegetables chosen are prolific, flavorful, and disease resistant.
In the shade of the garden, we plant beets, arugula, and lettuce.
Pumpkins and squash are chosen for squash vine borer resistance.
We plant zucchini on July 1 to avoid the squash vine borer.
The only sweet potato that gets any size for us is Centennial.
The children eat the Sugarheart Sugarsnap pea right out of the garden.
Kale is the healthiest vegetable. We grow Blue Curled Scotch.
Blue Coco pole green beans are easy for children to find and pick.
Broccoli with lots of small side shoots gives lots of samples for our 400 children.
Small productive eggplants and peppers work better for us.
Growing melons with children is an exercise in social, emotional health.
Greek columnar basil doesn't flower or have leaf disease. Side shoots go home easily.
Okra hosts the painted lady butterfly. We grow Bowling Red okra.
Children love giggling about cowpeas.
Lemon Queen sunflower is part of a citizen science project to count pollinators.
Children need lots of opportunities to pick. Aunt Molly's ground cherries obliges.
Popcorn offers so many teaching opportunities and is the healthiest snack food.
Children love the birdhouse gourds.