

Helen loved her chickens. She loved to let them out of their coop so they could walk around the garden and eat insects off of the plants. Helen's mother said that the chickens were very good for the garden, because they ate the "bad" bugs, so the plants would grow healthier. In the mornings, Helen gave the chickens chicken feed and fresh water. Every day after dinner, Helen took the fresh fruit and vegetables scraps from the house for the chickens. "These are some well-fed chickens!" Helen said. But there were problems. Hawks flew overhead every day, and sometimes a hungry hawk would steal a chicken. Helen noticed that the chickens saw these hawks too. Whenever a hawk's shadow would glide across the ground, the chickens would run for cover. Sometimes they ran under trees. Sometimes they ran back into the coop. But no matter where they ran, the arrival of the hawks always interrupted the chickens' work in the garden. This gave Helen an idea. Why not plant tall things that would give the chickens some camouflage and protection while they were in the garden? She discussed the idea with her mother, who thought it was great. That spring, they decided to plant sunflowers and corn to give the chickens some cover. When these were both a few feet tall, they planted beans and squash next to them. The beans and the squash vines grew up around the thick sunflower and corn stalks. That summer, when the chickens were doing their insect patrol around the garden, they were safe from the hunting hawks. They didn't lose any chickens, and their vegetables were beautiful!

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Helen has an idea to plant tall things in the garden.

Helen notices the hunting hawks.

Helen and her mother decide to plant corn and sunflowers.

Helen gives the chickens chicken feed and fresh water.

Helen plants beans and squash.

The corn and sunflowers grow to be a few feet tall.

Helen sees that the chickens run for cover when the hawks are out.

The chickens have protection while working in the garden.

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Commented [1]: Good work 1-10!