Read aloud “The Rules of Watering” to your child.

Recall:
“What type of text is this?” (nonfiction; informational)
“How do you know?” (Answers will vary.)
“What are some things the author tells about watering your garden?” (Water lightly; water early in the day; use mulch; lawn sprinklers are good to use.)

Vocabulary and Language:
“The author says to allow the soil to get ‘nice and moist.’ What does ‘moist’ mean?” (wet)
“The author says that mulch will ‘conserve’ water in the soil. What does ‘conserve’ mean?” (to keep water in the soil)

Digging Deeper: Extension Questions:
“Why will ‘moist’ soil encourage the roots to grow deep?” (Answers will vary.)
“What other things could be important to know about watering a garden?” (Answers will vary.)
Engagement Text: “The Rules of Watering”

Show Me the Basics
The Rules of Watering

A slow, thorough, deep watering is better than a light sprinkling. Allow the soil to get nice and moist so you encourage roots to go deep.

Water your garden early in the day so plants dry off before it gets dark. This helps prevent disease.

Use mulch. It conserves the water in the soil and you won’t have to water as often. More about mulch later.

There are a number of things to use to water the garden. A hand sprinkler is good, but you need to stand by the garden for a while in order to do a good job. If you get bored or impatient you may not do a good job.

Lawn sprinklers or soaker hoses are great, because they add water to the garden very slowly for a nice, deep soaking. And best of all, you can set the sprinkler and go have a lemonade while the garden gets watered.