

The dad with the giant sunflower

Have you ever seen a really tall flower?

Vocabulary

1. project 2. pandemic 3. enormous 4. genetics 5. neighbourhood 6. successfully

True Story

A father in England became well known in his _____ after growing a sunflower almost as tall as his house during the Covid-19 _____. Douglas Smith began the _____ when his four-year-old son asked him to grow a sunflower "as tall as the house." A few months later, the plant had reached more than 20 feet in height.

Because the sunflower was so tall, Douglas had to climb a ladder every morning to water it and check that it was still supported properly. The flower was grown from a special seed connected to a North American record-breaking sunflower. Douglas explained that regular care, warm weather, and good _____ all helped the _____ plant grow _____.

Quiz

1. Who became well known in his neighbourhood?
2. Why did Douglas start growing the sunflower?
3. How tall did the sunflower grow?
4. What did Douglas have to do every morning?

True or False

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Douglas Smith grew a sunflower as tall as his house. | True False |
| 2. The sunflower was grown from a regular seed. | True False |
| 3. Douglas's son has good genetics which will help him grow enormously. | True False |

Conversation

- A: Hey Douglas, did you really grow that sunflower as tall as your house?
B: Almost! Look, it's towering over us now!
A: How do you even water something that tall?
B: With a ladder and a lot of patience.
A: Your son must be thrilled!
B: Yes, but now he wants me to raise a dinosaur!

Discussion

1. Have you ever grown a plant or flower?
2. What flowers are popular in your country?
3. Would you like to have a big garden? Why or why not?
4. King Charles is well known for talking to plants. Do you do that?
5. What is something difficult you would like to grow?