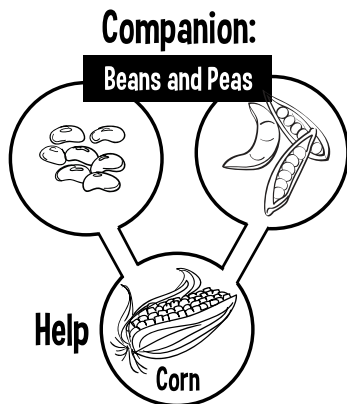


Garden Companions

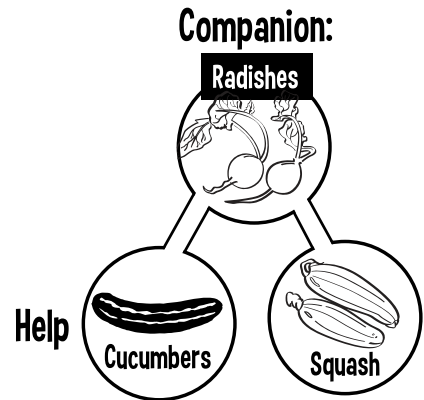
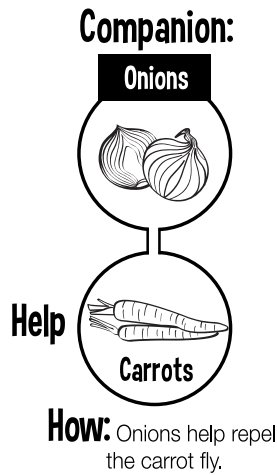
Name: _____ Date: _____

A colorful combination of food on a plate can enhance the way a meal looks and tastes. In the same way, plants growing in the garden can complement each other, too. While chefs think of how to combine flavors, gardeners also think about what grows well together. Did you know that onions help tomatoes and peppers grow by repelling pests? Or that beets help lettuce by adding minerals to the soil? The science of gardening is fascinating!

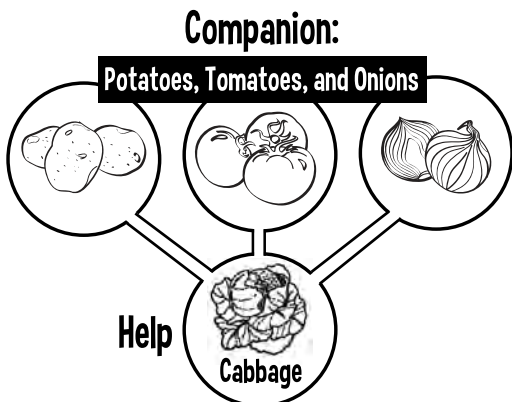
Use this sheet to help you design a garden that is not only colorful but grows well, too.



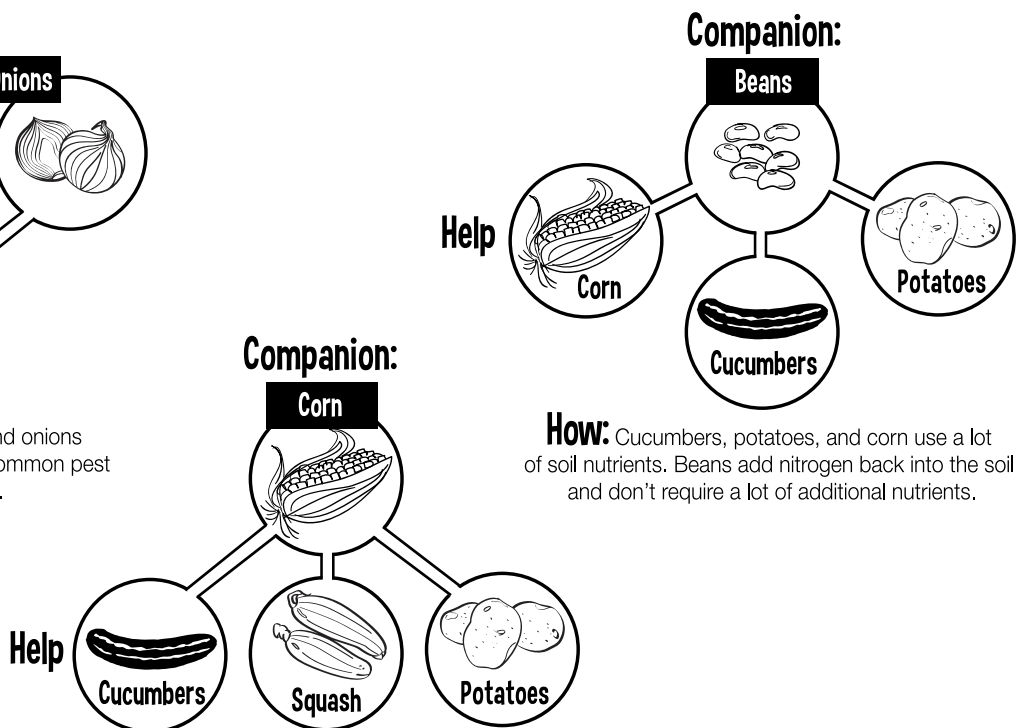
How: Beans and peas increase nitrogen supply in the soil available for corn.



How: Radishes help repel cucumber beetles.



How: Potatoes, tomatoes, and onions repel cabbageworm, which is a common pest of the cabbage family.



How: Cucumbers, potatoes, and corn use a lot of soil nutrients. Beans add nitrogen back into the soil and don't require a lot of additional nutrients.

How: The lower growing plants help reduce weed growth by covering the ground. The corn provides a nice tall stalk for the vining plants to climb.

