

Children can plant marigolds, zinnias, nasturtiums, sunflowers, or pansies as a gift for grandparents. These flowers offer a mix of seeds and young plants that are straightforward to handle, with options for pots or a garden bed.

Choose flowers for the space

Marigolds are a practical choice for a sunny pot. Their seeds are large enough for small hands to pick up, and the flowers come in warm yellow, orange, and red shades. A pot of them can brighten a doorstep or a sunny balcony.

Zinnias also grow from seeds and like sun. Choose a compact variety for a container, and check the seed packet for its expected height. Children can sow a few seeds in a pot and watch for the first leaves to appear.

Nasturtiums have round seeds that are easy to see against dark soil. Some varieties trail over the edge of a pot, while others grow in a more compact shape. Their bright flowers and round leaves make them interesting even before the blooms open.

Sunflowers are satisfying to grow from seed, but many become tall and need room. Look for a shorter variety if the gift is destined for a pot. Pansies are another option: buy young plants and let children arrange their cheerful faces in a container.

Plant a gift together

Start with a container that has drainage holes and a saucer to catch water. Use fresh potting mix, and read the plant label or seed packet for spacing and light needs. An adult can help with the heavier bag of soil.

1. Fill the pot with potting mix, leaving a little space below the rim.

2. Place seeds at the depth shown on the packet, or set young plants at the same soil level they had in their original pots.
3. Gently cover seeds or fill the spaces around plants with soil.
4. Water gently until the mix is moist. Let excess water drain away.
5. Put the pot where it will get the light recommended on the label, and check the soil regularly.

Make it easy to give and keep

A small pot is easier to carry than a large planter, especially if the child wants to present it in person. Check that the saucer is dry underneath before setting the gift on a table or windowsill.

Add a handwritten card with the flower's name and a simple care note. A child might draw the flower or write the date it was planted. If the seeds have not sprouted yet, the note can explain what is growing in the pot.

Common questions

Can children give flowers before they bloom?

Yes. A planted pot of seeds or a young plant lets grandparents enjoy watching it grow. Include the seed packet or a note so they know what to expect.

Which flowers are easiest for small hands?

Sunflower and nasturtium seeds are relatively large and easy to pick up. Young pansy plants are also a good choice with adult help.

How often should the pot be watered?

Check the soil often, since pots can dry out quickly. Water when the surface begins to feel dry, following any specific instructions on the label.

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