

DIG THIS By Peg Tillery (for 11-23-05) Holiday Gift Ideas © 2005

During the hectic holiday rituals sneak away to your favorite nursery and at the same time get a little holiday gift shopping done. I did a sneak peak myself recently and here's what I found. I didn't make it to Bainbridge Island but I know you'll find tons of temptations at Bainbridge Gardens and Bay Hay.

Clear Creek Nursery north of the CK Mall has a huge building with items ranging from home décor to gardening. Check out their area featuring "Sloggers" gardening clothes, hats, shoes and tools. Tucked away on a shelf you'll find pins, necklaces and barrettes by "14 Carrot Designs." These decorations for gardeners have sayings like "One Hot Tomata," "Don't Bug Me," "Earth Angel," "Veggie Vixen," and my favorite "Gardening Goddess." They are very affordable at \$7.99 per item. Don't miss the furniture, baby section and the holiday ornaments.

At Country Nursery and Gardens on Seabeck Highway owner Tracy Rodgers has selected country and cottage items for every corner of your home and garden. In the big red building you'll find delicate photo frames, table and bed linens, plates, cups, ornaments for trees and gardens, wreaths for all seasons, very sweet garden journals covered with handmade paper and dried flowers, and abundant homey temptations galore. Outside you'll find windchimes, glass birdfeeders, iron plant shelves, birdhouses, birdbaths, garden gloves and tools, framed sayings, trellising materials and plant stakes plus much much more.

Carters Nursery on Northwest Lakeview Drive (south of Kings West School) features collectible antique furniture and shelves at affordable prices along with garden tools, gloves and kneelers. My favorite grandchild temptation was a green plastic frog watering can with garden gloves. Also available in an elephant shape, the complete package is \$8.95. Don't miss the vintage linens and copies of vintage linens. The packet with sixteen hankies sells for \$16.50. Create a stuffed pillow from the decorate packaging. Hankies can be hemmed on one edge to hang on a curtain rod making a delightful valance.

Bergers Garden and Gifts on Adele in Bremerton abounds in garden related gift ideas from gloves to wall hangings. You'll want the package of ten galvanized wire and copper plant markers with their own pen at \$9.99. The kiddie's shovel by Rumford Gardener is most excellent with a wooden shaft and red metal D-ring handle and spade for only \$12. Also by Rumford is a mini-tool pouch for kids in primary colors of red, green, and blue for \$12.

Valley Nursery on Bond Road in Poulsbo has more temptations than I can list but you'll especially want to check out their book section, kids section and all the holiday ornaments. Don't miss the giant hat rack covered with friendly felt hats, hand-knit-decorative hats with velvet-lined earflaps, polar fleece ball caps and numerous other chapeaus for gardener adornment. Birders would love the copper topped suet feeders at \$7.99 for single feeder and \$11.99 for the double. Pick up "Faces in the Woods" at \$9.99 to change any huge tree into a friendly garden creature. Don't miss "Nozzle Buddies" at

\$12.99 shaped like a yellow duck, orange fish and green alligator full of whimsy for kids and adults.

Sacks Feed in Kingston has a hugely complete selection of gardening books. You'll also find raincoats and boots for adults and kids, plus wonderfully warm socks, gloves and hats all at affordable prices. Look for the cow and frog boots and the green frog rainslicker. Numerous other gift ideas abound. Pay special attention to the collection of birdbaths in every style and texture. Sacks can special order a plethora of items for your gardening needs.

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