

Farming at Home: Bake with Bulbs

Spring is here and bulbs are growing.
Explore the inside of a bulb, and make delicious food.

Activity 1: Bulb Dissection

Bulbs, like tulips, daffodils, onions and garlic, are equipped to grow entire plants.

Look inside one! Either by cutting it from the roots to the top, or by peeling back layers.

See if you can find:

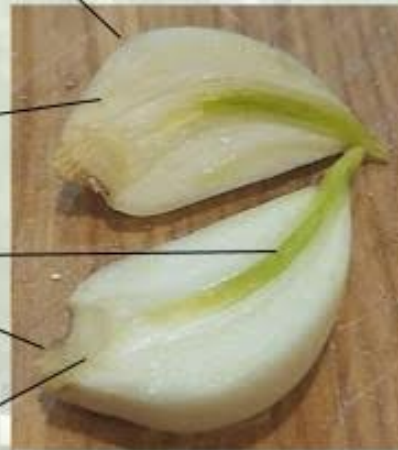
1: The **tunic**, a papery outer layer.

2: **Scales**, soft layers under the tunic, which provide food for the plant (and sometimes humans).

3: An internal **stem** or **bud**.

4: **Roots**, which would collect water and nutrients for the bulb when planted

5: The **basal stem**, a piece at the bottom that holds the scales and root together.



Activity 2: Garlic Bread (or Bulb Baking)

Perfect for any dissected garlic cloves.

- 1: Peel 3 cloves garlic and crush (or mince) it into a bowl.
- 2: Add 5 tablespoons of olive oil and/or butter, and a pinch of salt. Mix.
- 3: Slice a loaf of bread almost all the way through so that the bottom crust holds the slices together (much like the basal stem holds the scales of an onion together).
- 4: Spread the garlic and oil mixture between the slices of bread.
- 5: Wrap the loaf in tin foil, and bake in a hot oven (350-450°F) for 15 minutes.