

ROOM BETWEEN THE ROWS

Picture book (ages 4–7) • ~850 words

When city life starts to feel too small, a boy and his dad find a patch of earth at the edge of town. The garden looks empty at first—just dirt, sticks, and wind—but it slowly becomes a place of small wonders, muddy mistakes, and quiet triumphs.

At first, everything feels wrong. The rules of planting—two fingers deep, a hand apart, room between the rows—seem arbitrary and dull. The boy spills seeds, steps on sprouts, and learns that growing takes more patience than he thinks he has. His dad quietly documents the journey, taking pictures not to scold but to notice: muddy hands, broken stems, and the tiny victories in between.

Through each season, the boy’s curiosity and the garden’s quiet lessons start to intertwine. When rain floods the beds, he learns rescue. When a butterfly lures him off the path, he learns care. When he panics at a buzzing bee but catches himself before crushing a plant, he learns self-control. Each mistake becomes a new kind of growing.

Over three years, the once-barren patch turns green—and so does the boy’s sense of belonging. He begins to recognize the invisible paths between stones, the rhythm of returning seasons, and the satisfaction of waiting for what’s hidden underground.

By the time he’s leading the planting himself, he doesn’t need pictures or reminders. He knows the spacing, the depth, the care each seed requires—and what it means to make room for things to grow, in soil and in himself.

Room Between the Rows is a tender, grounded picture book about patience, connection, and the quiet work of growing up—told through the seasons of a shared garden, a father’s lens, and the invisible path between them.