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# terraflora sustainable gardening: Sustainable gardening is building gardens in which the plants grown work in harmony, our mission: taking and replacing certain nutrients in the soil and cross pollinating so as not to drain the earth of its usability. The development of agricultural ecosystems intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient, also known as permaculture.

To educate people on the benefits to themselves and the environment that come from sustainable gardening by providing them with the knowledge and tools to accomplish this, as well as building communities around the concept and creation of sustainable gardens.

## our vision:

Through the practice of sustainable gardening, people will become self reliant and ecologically conscious of the Earth's needs.



#### Bee Smart - School Garden Kit

Bee Smart School Garden Kits are a service provided by the Pollinator Partnership that sells packages of gardening supplies along with teaching materials in order to promote the growth of plants that attract pollinators such as the endangered bee population, as well as getting children to spend more time outdoors.

#### Bee Smart Kits include:

- Pre- and post-tests
- 10 lesson plans with accompanying reproducible worksheets
- Materials for lesson plan activities
- Reproducible handouts
- Access to additional Bee Smart® School Garden Kit

#### Take Aways from the Study:

- Introduce people to new ideas about the environment and health.
- Getting people to change their behaviors.
- Providing tools and guides for people.
- Connecting with a community.
- Utilizes:

Website: general information, resources.

App: guide to choosing right plants.

Physical kits: meant to educate

#### How Terra Flora is different:

Our plan goes beyond just education through mailed kits through the incorporation of:

- A focus on sustainable gardening practices and principles
- The benefits of gardening (both for individuals and the environment
- Customization to user needs and wants
- A focus on the community
- Creating a platform for community interactions
- Encouragement for community growth

### Sustainable Gardening Practices

#### Produce No Waste:

Composting

#### Design of Garden Space:

- Use all possible space.
- Conserve water
- Easy access, less walking on garden soil

#### Self-Sustaining Plants that Work in Harmony:

- Cross pollinate.
- Use local plants that grow easily in the local climate.
- Perennials don't disturb the soil and save energy as they don't need to be replanted.

   The soil and save energy as they don't need to be replanted.
- Diversity different vegetables and plants. Variety leads to less chance of devastating disease.
- Natural plant stacking: tall plants/trees > shrubs > herbaceous plants > ground cover plants > root crops.
- Grow plants that work with each other and are beneficial to each other.
- Grow plants in combination.
- Microclimates: groups of plants together can create different temperatures, shade, and humidity. Growing shade loving plants with sun loving plants, using some plants to shade others.
- Use plants to protect each other from the elements.
- Companion Planting growing plants together for specific benefits to each other such as pests, increased health, vigor, yield, and disease resistance.
- Some plants can keep pests away

#### Soil Preservation:

- Protect the soil and its nutrients
- Use plants as mulches, ground cover plants
- Bare soil in the garden goes against nature, plants act as protection for the soil.
- Bare soil can be compacted by rain, which degrades soil structure and washes it away.
- Rebuilding soil:
  - Plants with deep roots break up the soil.
  - Compost
  - Plants grown then chopped down generate biomass to mulch the soil and put nutrients back into the soil.
  - Earthworms are a must

#### Build a Community:

- Share garden space
- Share tools, skills, seeds, produce, and products.
- Enrich the soil so that future generations can use it.

#### History

- Formalized in late 1970s in Australia
- Permaculture/ Sustainable Gardening emulate patterns in nature.
- Permaculture comes from "permanent agriculture," combining sustainable agriculture, landscape design, and ecology.
- Reconnects us with traditional farming practices.
- 3 Ethical principles:
- Caring for the planet
- Caring for others
- Sharing abundance

### **Benefits of Gardening**

- Physical Health:
  - Eating organic vegetables is healthy
- Plants can filter the air/keep the air clean
- Mental Health:
  - Being close to nature helps with stress
  - Nature promotes creativity
  - Horticulture therapy: a formal practice that uses plants, horticultural activities, and the garden landscape to promote well-being for its participants.
- Medicinal Uses/ Home Remedies:
- Using organic remedies have less negative effects on the body
- Herbs can help with stress, digestion, headaches, body aches, injuries, and more.



Case Study Research



# Anna Robinson

Female, 34

#### **Experience Level: Advanced**

Anna lives in a small home in Raleigh with her husband and young daughter. Her house has a small backyard that isn't really being used. She loves to grow plants and has several healthy houseplants in her home, as well as at her office. Eating healthy, fresh vegetables is also very important to Anna. She has some experience with small scale gardens, and has previously grown vegetable plants in window boxes. She usually grows small tomato plants and basil to cook with, and she loves the smell of oregano. Anna has some basic knowledge of sustainable gardening, and knows that plants have a lot of different uses and benefits. However, she currently doesn't have an easy and fun way to learn more and she wants to find other people who share her interests in gardening.



# Will McCann

Male, 23

#### **Experience Level: Intermediate**

In his final year of Political Science at NC State. Will finds he has a lot of work to do. He is way busier than he has been in the past and has less and less free time to do what he wants. He still makes time to play soccer or go to the gym and tries to hang out with his friends whenever he can. Despite his workload, he is always looking for ways to relax and spend some time taking a load off, he knows it's important not to get too stressed and overworked. He has also recently become more concerned about the future of our planet and the condition we have put it in. Will keeps some plants around the house, but has had some trouble actually tending to them, he often forgets when he has and has not watered them and, as a result, many have died.



**Grayson Peters** 

## Female, 26

#### **Experience Level: Beginner**

Grayson is a young professional in Wake County. She is introverted so she often likes to stay in rather than go into town. Though she likes to stay in, she wants to have hobbies to do when she's at home. She is often looking for ways to live healthier (eating healthy, trying new foods, getting exercise, reading, limiting screen time, etc.) Grayson recently learned that plants have a lot of positive health benefits and she's been thinking about starting a garden, but she has no idea where to start. Grayson has never heard of sustainable gardening though she is always open to learn about new ways to live environmentally conscious. As she considers starting a garden, she hopes to find others intersted in sustainable gardening.

# 6 AM Anna wakes up early to get ready and have a little alone time before she starts the day. During this time she checks her Terra Flora app to see the status of her garden. The app informs her that some of her plants need watering and pruning. 7 AM the day. 9 AM Grayson has slept in

Will gets up early head to the gym before class and grab some breakfast in Case. On his way out he notices that one of his plants has yellow spots on it that weren't previously there. He quickly snaps a photo and heads out for

Will has class all day until 4 with short breaks in between that he uses to study or eat. On one of his breaks, he takes a second to upload the picture of his plants to the forum section of the Terra Flora app, asking for advice with how to treat the plant.

9 AM

**7 AM** 

Her husband is up and

she helps her daughter

get ready for daycare

have breakfast together

and packs her lunch

and bookbag. They

before leaving

getting ready, while

When his class is over he heads to the Atrium for lunch and to head to Centennial for his other classes. While Will is on the bus he checks the Terra Flora app and sees some of his plants need pruning and watering.

9 AM

Anna arrives at her job

and it there is until 5

pm. It's a mildly busy

a little stressed with

everything going on

at work

day and she is feeling

12 PM

He is done with class for the day, but heads to Hunt Library to get some homework and studying done before dinner. He meets up with some other Poli Sc

12 PM

On her lunch break,

Anna takes her lunch

to a small green area

to eat. She pulls out her

phone to look through

the Terra Flora app and

while she is there, she

questions about

their gardens.

answers a few people's

4 PM

the forum section of

Will and some of his friends head back to Main Campus and eat dinner in Talley.

5 PM

Anna heads home

while her husband

She uses this bit of

Terra Flora app to

remind her again

what plants needed

attention, then she

heads outside to tend

**7 PM** 

Anna uses her

to the garden.

downtime for herself.

picks up their daughter.

meet up for a game of soccer and play for a couple of hours.

Before starting dinner,

Anna picks a few of her

herbs to use in dinner.

She starts dinner and

A few of Will's friends

has it on the table

by 6:45.

bit more work done. He also just relaxes a bit, watching some Netflix. While watching Netflix, Will's Terra Flora app sends him a push notification that his plants need watering so he pauses the show to water them.

Will goes back to his

**7 PM** 

dinner together and

talking. After dinner her

husband helps out with

cleaning up, while their

daughter plays a bit.

his social media and checks the Terra Flora sees that someone ha replied to his question on the forum with advice on how to treat his plant.

8 PM

Anna and her husband

put their daughter to

the evening they relax

Anna checks her socia

Facebook event for a

garden starting this

Terra Flora community

weekend. They decide to take their daughter

12 PM

bed. For the rest of

together catching

up and watching T\

media and sees a

a little because it's a

Saturday. When she

breakfast and starts

a Terra Flora house

party at 11.

getting ready because

her friend is throwing

gets up, she eats

11 AM

interested

At her friend's Terra Flora house party, Grayson and the other guests decorate small pots and plant seeds in them. She learns about sustainable gardens and becomes

Grayson grabs lunch with another friend, then runs errands around town.

12 PM

When Grayson gets home, she pulls out her laptop and visits Terra Flora's website. There she learns more about sustainable gardening and all of its benefits.

3 PM

Grayson finishes some chores around the house then takes a nap.

4 PM

Grayson gets up and makes dinner for herself, as well as food laundry done. for lunch that week.

While watching TV, she gets some of her

**7 PM** 

After thinking about it, Grayson decides to starts a sustainable garden. She opens her laptop and goes to Terra Flora's website and completes their garden generator where she creates an herb garden. She decides to buy a kit with all the materials she'll need.

Personas and Scenarios

**User Journey** 

# **Touchpoints**

#### Small - Individual Level

- Garden Kits
- Website
- Garden template generator
- Mobile App
  - Gardening reminders and instructions

## Medium - Community Level

- Event Kits
- Website
- Community Forums
- Helpful Videos
- Mobile App
- Community connection

#### Large - Expansive Level

- Advertising
  - Social Media
- Physical posters and signage
- Website
- Informational pages
- Promotional Items
  - Stickers
  - T-shirts
  - Pins

# People

#### Stakeholders

#### State of North Carolina

Terra Flora would be funded by the State initially as a means to educate the population about agriculture, since it is so important to our economy. Eventually, the program would become self sustained by its sale of kits and books.

Department of Agriculture

**Department of Commerce** 

#### Audience

Mid-20s to late 30s

Young professionals

Busy, active lifestyle

Not previously invested in gardening

#### **Service Providers**

**Gardening Company** - provide gardening supplies, tools, and materials

**Professional Horticulturists** 

# **Branding Guide**

**Branding Guide** 

The Terra Flora brand alludes to the history of agriculture through the use of old botanical illustrations, while still feeling fresh and modern with its bright colors and quirky sans serif. It is meant to evoke a calming presence and put users at ease.



Logotype modified from Mrs. Eaves, bold.

When sitting on a on top of a pattern or illustration, the logo may have an exterior, rounded stroke the same color as the background, however this is not always necessary.

Logo may only appear in text colors (see palette) and white.



## Copy typeface: Isidora

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Semi-bold ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

> Bold ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

> > This typeface has strong legibility and a light, modern feel.

**Creative Brief** 



Medium ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

The tails of the letterforms have simple flourishes that bring a quirky whimsicality to the typeface. This evokes a more calming and contemporary feeling.

All weights of this typeface come in oblique, as well.





#### background - beige

used primarily for high information platforms as a neutral background

#D1B69E

#### overlay - light brown

overlay color for details on the beige

#664D3B

text - dark brown

#C0E1E6

#### primary - light blue

used for backgrounds and graphics bottom layer of illustration overlays

#7EC1CF

#### primary - medium blue

used for graphics and highlights of color top layer of illustration overlays

#37545F

text - dark blue

#B3C68F

#### secondary - green

used for pops of color bottom layer of overlay

#5B6C2F

#### text - dark green

(can be used as overlay at low opacity)

#FDE0D2

#### primary - light coral

used for backgrounds and graphics bottom layer of illustration overlays

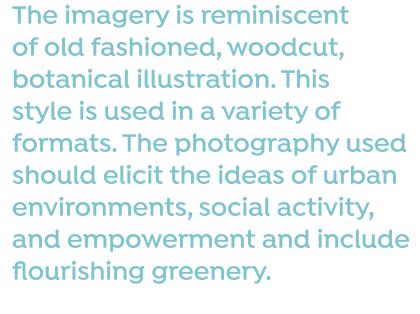
#### primary - coral

used for graphics and highlights of color top layer of illustration overlays

All colors are to be used in combination with each other or on plain white. Lighter colors can be used as text on dark backgrounds if necessary, provided that typeface weight and size allow for optimal readability.

Colors are meant to be soft and calming while still evoking the idea of something fresh and modern.

**Branding Guide** 







Or as a darker mark on the beige background

**Branding Guide** 











## **Types of Plant Kits**







Color



Aroma

Custom

Perennial

Herb



Tropical

## Garden Template









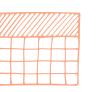






Partial Sun / Partial Shade

## **App Interface**

















Iconography for clickable interfaces follow a similar style as the background illustrations, but with a more hand-drawn appearance to distinguish interaction from decoration.



The tone and voice of Terra Flora are meant to put the user at ease. Important qualities:

- Calming
- Helpful
- Easy to understand
- Everyday language

This aligns with the brand's concept of relaxation and health.

Slogan

"Relieve stress.

Build community.

Live sustainably."

## **Key Terminology:**

empowerment

community

urban

social

sustainable

relax

de-stress

learn

grow

easy

fun

novel

invite

help

enrich

health

calm

participation

part of a whole

## **Definitions:**

sustainable gardening: building gardens in which the plants grown work in harmony, taking and replacing certain nutrients in the soil and cross pollinating so as not to drain the earth of its usability.

"It's the concept of using gardening practices that cause no harm to the earth and its inhabitants while attempting to actually enhance it."

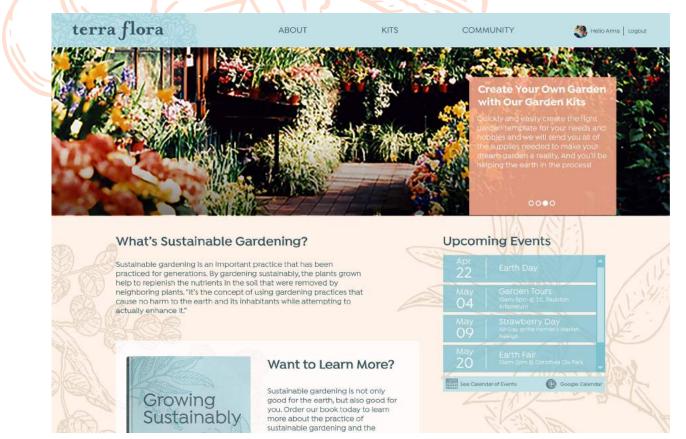
permaculture: the development of agricultural ecosystems intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient.

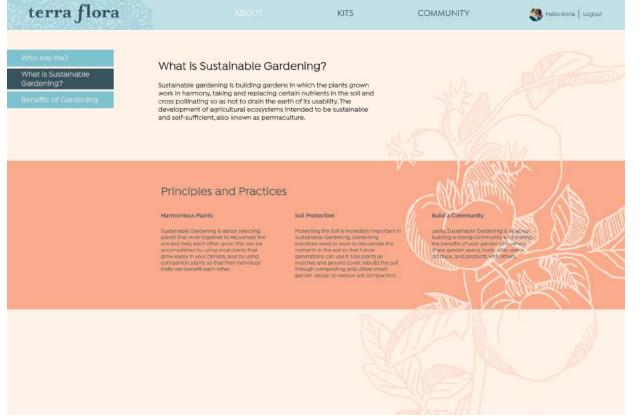
**Branding Guide** 

## Website

The Terra Flora website is a platform for users to learn about sustainable gardening and Terra Flora, buy garden kits, and provide a place where users can access their personal garden information and connect to the larger gardening community.







## Home Page

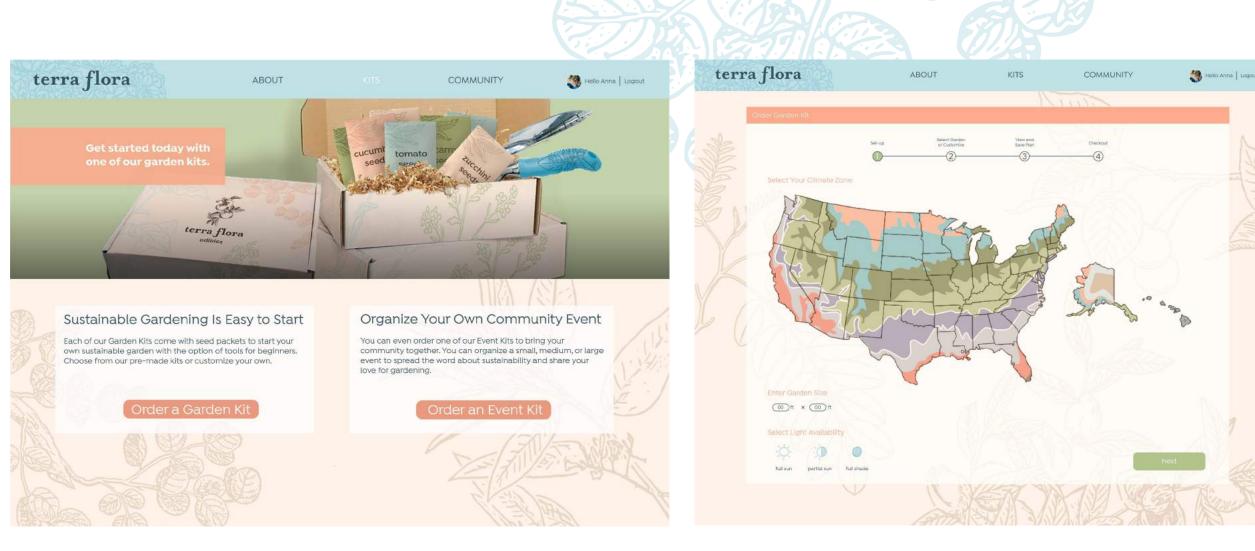
Website

Users can view a calender of upcoming events and quickly navigate to the About, Kits, Community, and Profile pages. This is also where user's can learn about the book.

## **About Page**

Here, users can learn about Terra Flora's mission, as well as learn about the principles and practices of sustainable gardening, and the health benefits of gardening.

15



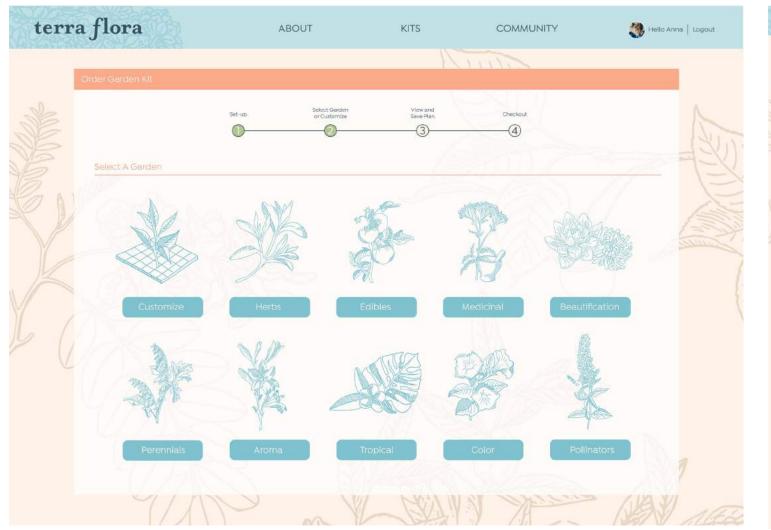
## Garden Kits Page

Users can learn about and order Garden or Event Kits from this page.

## Garden Kit Set-Up

When ordering a garden kit, users must first set up their garden by selecting their Plant Hardiness Zone, inputting their garden size, and selecting their sunlight availability.

Website



## Selecting a Kit

Users can choose from a number of pre-designed garden kits depending on their preference, or they can choose make a custom garden and select plants from multiple categories.

## Customizing a Kit

Hero Plants

( ) o

Oregano
 Carrols

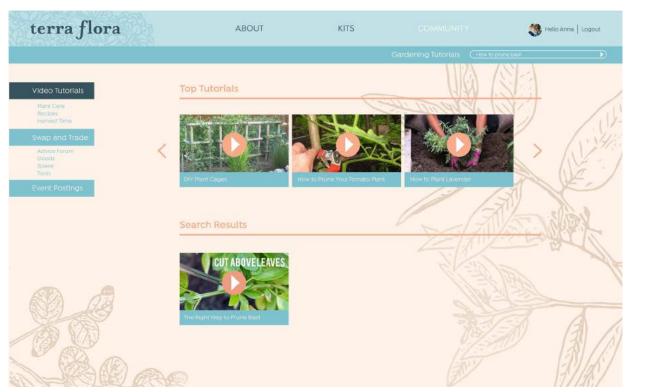
terra flora

Once the user chooses to customize their own garden, they are brought to the customization page. Here, they can either search plants by name, or within plant categories. They can then view individual plant information, add plants to their garden plan, and view recommended sustainable companion plants. Once the plan is complete, users can finish the ordering process.



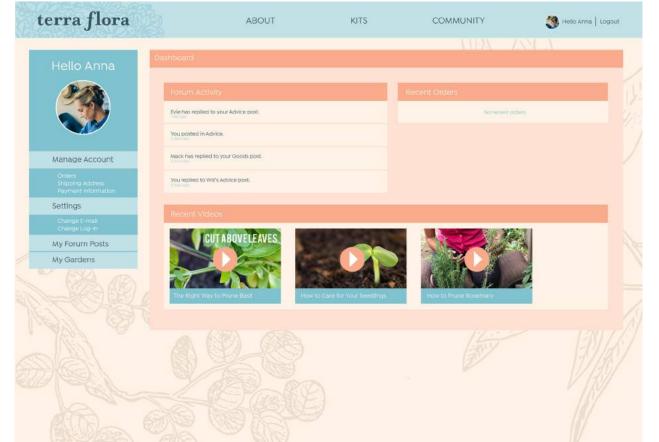




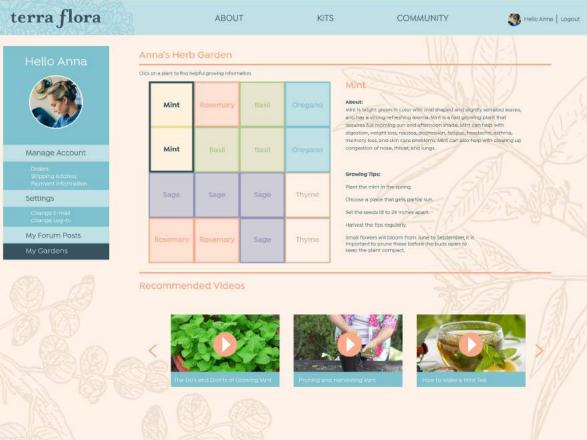


## Community Forum

This page is a platform to support users with their gardening needs and connect them to the larger community. Users can come here to find answers to their gardening questions through posting questions to the forum or by searching and viewing video tutorials. Users can also find local events from this page.







## Profile Page

Users can set up their personal profile page on the Terra Flora site. This will be a place to view their personal information including settings, recent orders, addresses, and payment information. Users will also be able to quickly access their forum posts as well as plant care information for their personal garden.

## Viewing Your Personal Garden

Users can select plants in their garden plan to get quick information about that plant, as well as recommended plant care videos.

Website

# Individual Garden Kits

Terra Flora makes the otherwise difficult task of creating sustainable garden with the correct plants to enhance the soil, easy. We provide garden kits with everything needed to start a sustainable garden.





Individuals can customize their garden kit by choosing what type of sustainable garden they want on the Terra Flora website garden generator. The created template includes what plants need to go in the garden and where. Kit contain everything needed to start the garden chosen. There is also an option to include hand tools and/or a copy of the book *Growing Sustainably*.

Individual Kits

## **Types of Gardens**

There are many types of gardens from which to choose in the kit generator.

#### Types of gardens include:

- Herbal
   Aroma
- Medicinal
   Tropical
- Edible
- Color
- Beautification
   Pollinators
- Perennials
- Custom







Individual Kits

## **Event Kits**

In addition to kits for individuals, Terra Flora also has event kits. These kits include materials for an individual or group to plan and host events about sustainable gardening. The goal of all Terra Flora events is to stimulate discussion about sustainable practices and environmental issues. There are three types of event kits available. Each caters to a different style and size of event.





TERRA FLORA

terra flora

## **Home Event Kit**

#### Accommodates up to 25 people

A Terra Flora home event kit accommodates a small group of people, such as a gathering of friends at someone's home. Holding this event is a good way to introduce friends to the program, as well as make others aware of sustainable gardening and its benefits. For those who may already be familiar with Terra Flora or sustainable gardening, this event is a way for people interested the topic to meet others who also share this interest. Guests can share the successes and failures of their own gardens and swap tips and tricks.

This kit includes materials for guests to plant small potted plants. Materials include seeds, biodegradable pots, a small banner, table cloths, a yard sign, and other materials. Graphics for social media posts and stickers or pins are also provided as promotional materials.

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**Event Kits** 

**Event Kits** 

# community garden event

Where: 123 Road Ave. When: April 20th at 10 am

terra flora

## Community Garden

#### Accommodates up to 150 people

The Terra Flora community garden event is just as it states, an event to start or maintain a community sustainable garden in one's area. This event is a good way to introduce sustainable gardening to others in the community, which in turn may lead them to discuss other environmental issues. It is also a way for people interested in gardening to find others with similar interests.





Private · Hosted by Nicole Procter

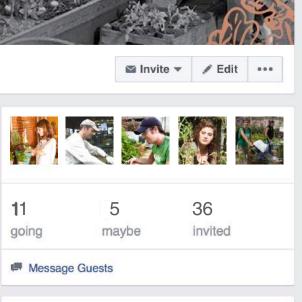
Monday, May 15, 2017 at 12:30 PM

8234 Mayfield Rd, Chesterland, OH 44026-2507, United

INVITE FRIENDS

Come join us to plant a community garden! We're so excited to be growing

this garden together to help make the community a more connected and beautiful place. This is a Terra Flora event, which means it's also ecofriendly. Come out, meet new people, and have tons of fun!



This event would nclude the materials to accommodate over 100 people coming in and out of the event. These kits would contain materials such as seeds, disposable hand tools, banners, and table clothes. Promotional materials such as yard signs, flyers, pins, stickers, and graphics for social media posts would also be included.

terra flora

**Event Kits** 



and it's benefits! Where: 123 Road Ave.

When: April 20th at 3 pm

terra flora

## Terra Flora Festival

#### Accommodates over 150 people

The largest event available is a Terra Flora Festival. This event is a way to make the entire community aware of sustainable gardening and other environmental issues. Because of the scale of this event, it would likely be hosted by a group, organization, or town. This event would include a wide variety of materials, hosts are able to choose the quantity of materials. The goal of this event would be to educate the community and make them more environmentally aware.

The kit for this event would primarily include promotional materials and the rest of the event would be planned by the host. Promotional materials include flyers, banners, graphics

for social media posts, yard signs, pins, stickers, and t-shirts.

**Event Kits** 

# **Gardening Sustainably**

Terra Flora sells a book written by an authority on the subject of sustainable gardening that informs the reader about its history and importance, while also promoting its practice.



Book

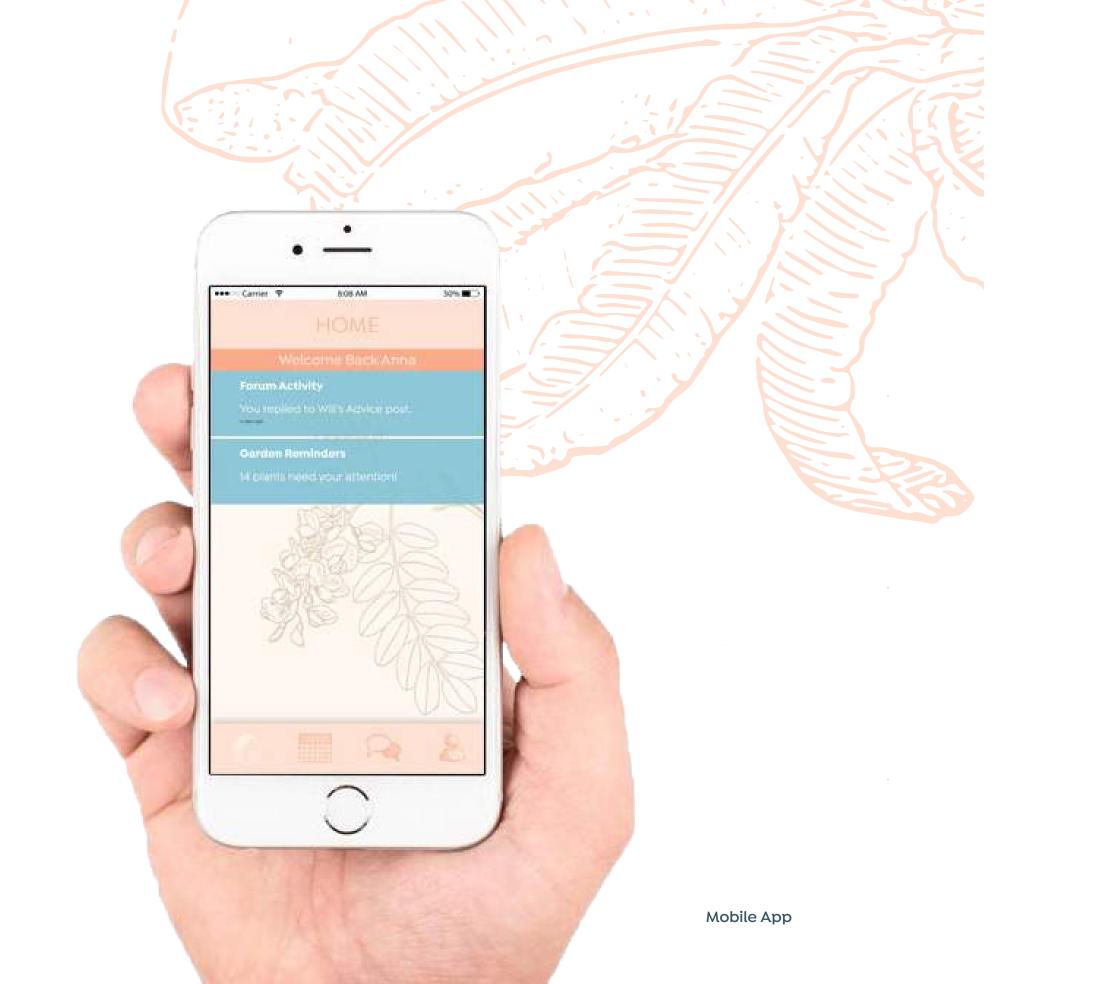
This book teaches the reader all about the practices of sustainable gardening. It also informs readers of all the benefits that sustainable gardening has to the individual through health and stress relief, as well as community benefits.



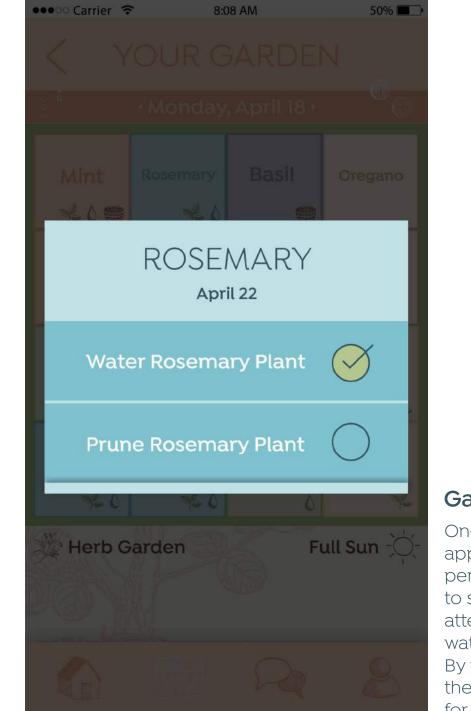
Book 27

# Mobile App

The Terra Flora app gives the user personalized and quick access to their individual garden reminders to better care for their garden, as well as offering another connection to the gardening community forum. The home screen dashboard gives the user a fast view of their recent activity and any garden care reminders.







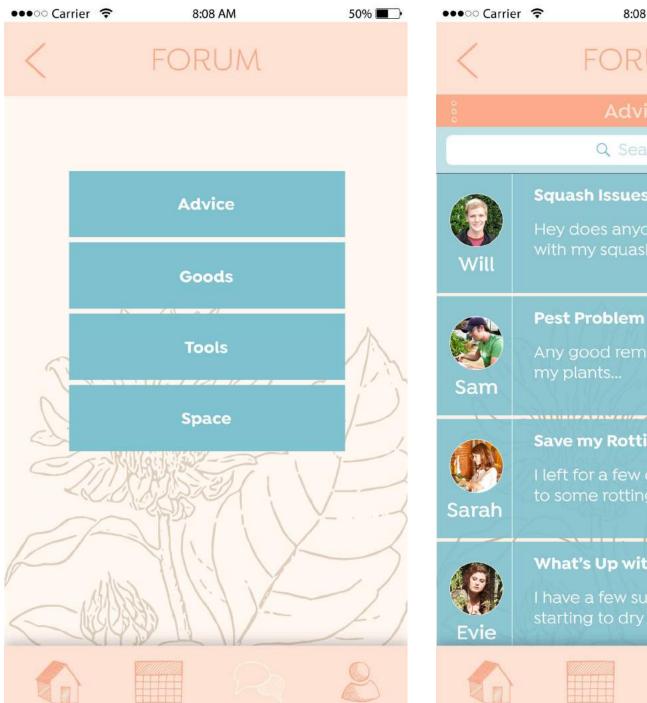
### Garden Reminders

One of the main functions of the Terra Flora app is to provide care reminders for the user's personal garden. Each day the user can check to see if any plant in their garden needs their attention through the use of the pruning, watering, and harvesting icons on each plot. By tapping on a plant, the user can check off if they have completed the care that is needed for that plant on that day.



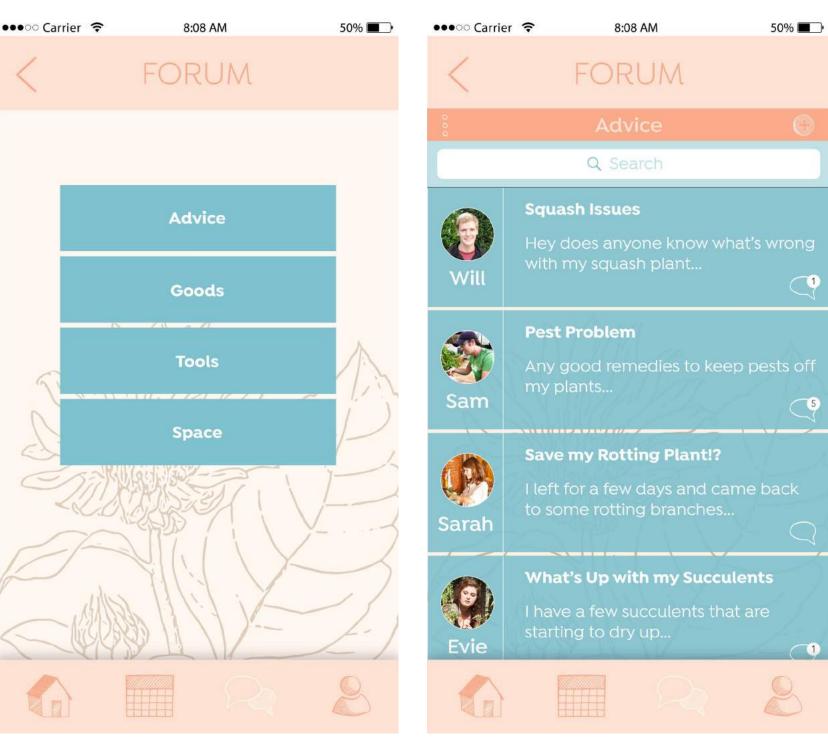
Mobile App

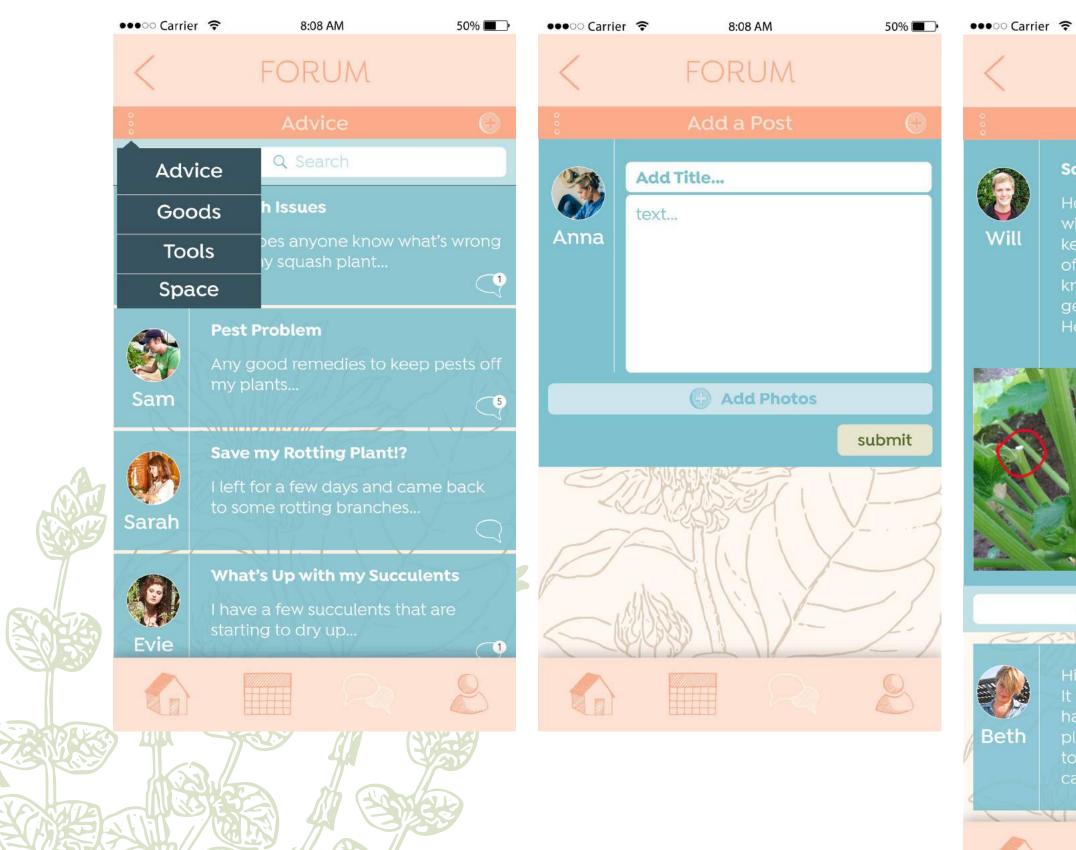


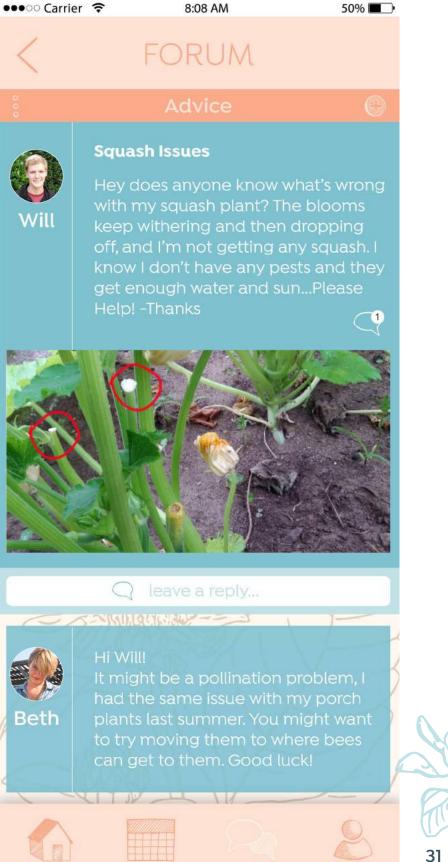


## Community Forum

Another key feature of the app is the Forum section. Here, the user has easy access to the Terra Flora community. The forum is divided by Advice, Goods, Tools, and Space. Users can quickly and easily post and find answers to their gardening questions from anywhere. The app will also notify the user when someone has responded to one of their posts.









Mobile App

# Promotion

Terra Flora
promotes itself
in both physical
and digital media.
It does this in
order to reach the
largest range of
potential users.



Promotion



## **Printed Promotion**

The first interaction people have with Terra Flora is posters, flyers, and social media presence.

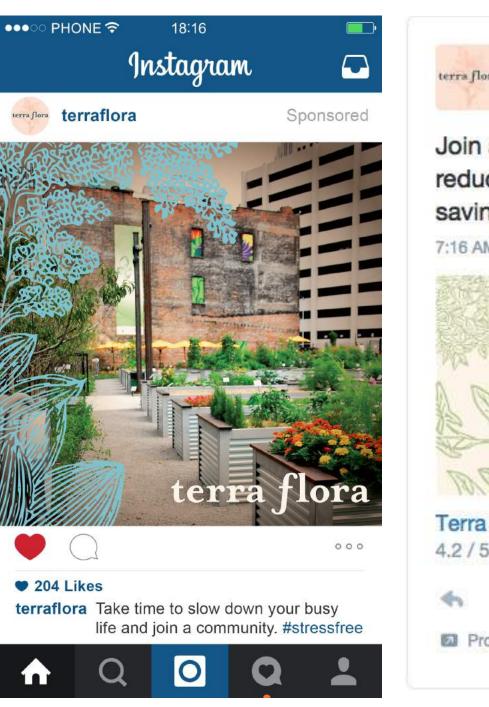
Posters are located in public areas frequented by young professionals such as sidewalks in the business sector and the mall. Flyers will also be posted in local businesses such as natural food stores and put under car windshields.



Promotion

32



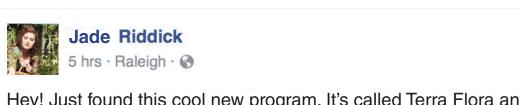




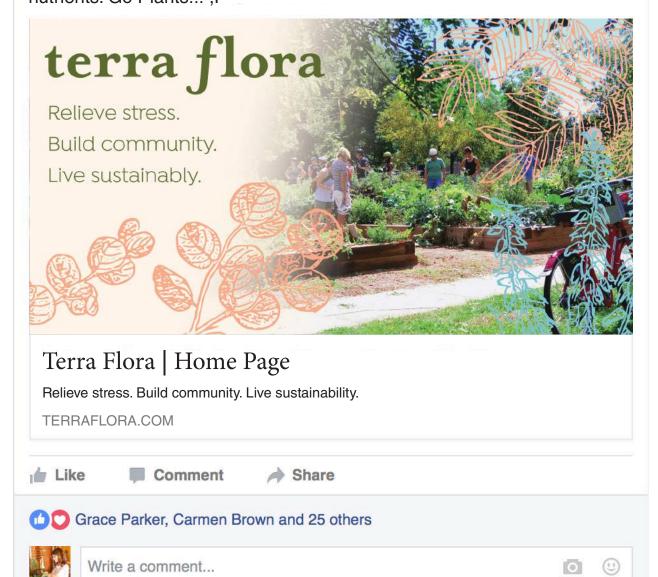


Twitter Ad





Hey! Just found this cool new program. It's called Terra Flora and it lets you design your own garden to fits what you want. It also connects you with a bunch tutorials and community stuff so you can meet new people interested in the same things. It's also great because all of the garden designs are self-sustainable which means they don't drain the soil nutrients. Go Plants!!! :P





Learn More

72 Comments 96 Shares

Comment A Share



The most effective form of promotion is Terra Flora's social media presence with ads on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram, as well as posts created by those already involved with Terra Flora.

**Facebook** Feed Ad



Terra Flora Clean earth. Better life.

Become part of a community and reduce stre ...

Learn More

**Facebook User Post** 

Terra Flora

Clean earth. Better life.

Join Now

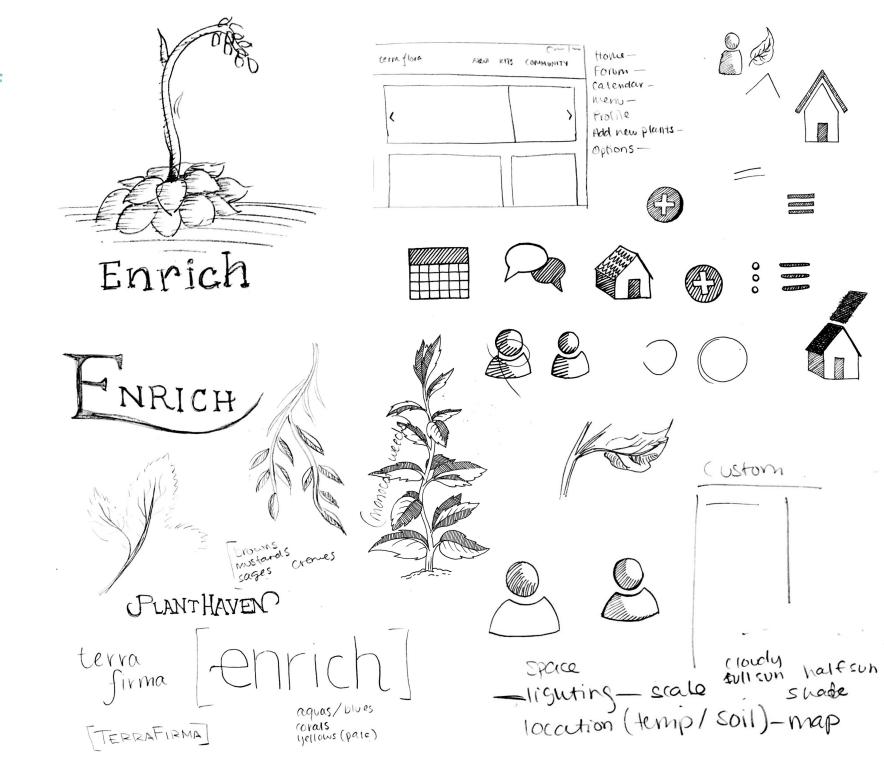
138

Facebook

Sidebar Ad

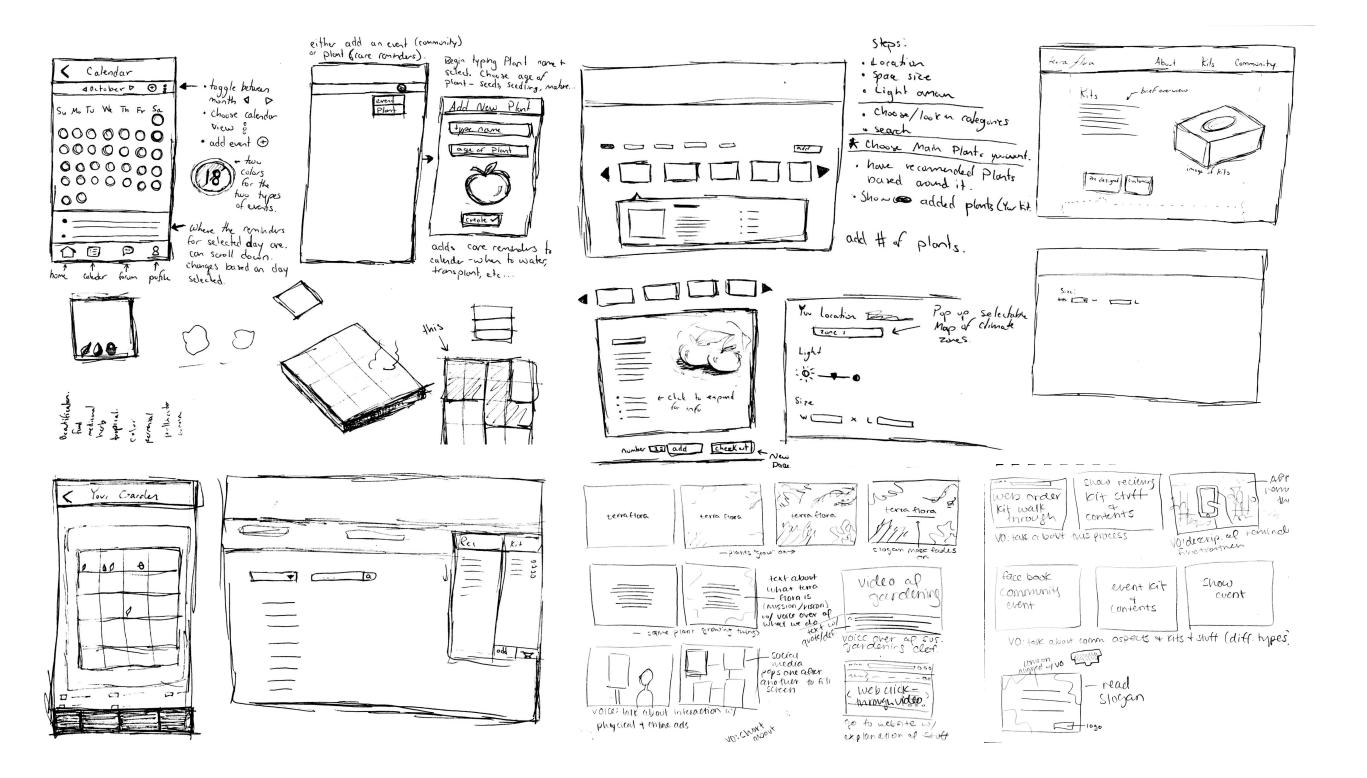
# **Process Work**

Sketches and iterations of our thought process that led to the final creation of Terra Flora's brand, interaction, and services.



Early logos and icons

**Process** 



Wireframes and Storyboards

**Process** 

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