Podcast: Gardening Buds

Episode Title: What is a garden?

Duration: 9’ 31”

[ABC Podcast sting – This is an ABC podcast]

[sound of a phone ringing]

[hold music starts]

**Costa:** Hello. Thank you for calling the Gardening Buds Hotline, the best place for all your gardening needs. Whether you've got a big backyard, a balcony, or a little pot on a windowsill, we're here to help. Hold the line and one of our expert Buds will be with you shortly.

[hold music ends]

**Costa:** Hello?

**Caylee:** Hi, my name's Caylee.

**Costa:**  Hi, Caylee. My name's Costa. What can I do for you?

**Caylee:** Umm… I want to make my own garden. I want to know what sort of plants I should use.

**Costa:** Well, you've rung the right place because that's what we love to do here at the Gardening Buds Hotline. We think the best time to start a garden is today.

[upbeat music starts]

**Caylee:** Cool.

**Costa:** Before we figure out what type of plants you need for a new garden, we need to work out what kind of garden we're making. So my first question for you is, where do you live?

**Caylee:** I live where there's lots of butterflies and animals and flowers. It's near the ocean.

**Costa:** Ah, so you live near the coast. Then where does the house sit?

**Caylee:** Um, At the very top.

**Costa:** So there's a hill.

**Caylee:** It faces the ocean.

**Costa:** Ah, these are all clues. You see to make a garden that's right for you, we need to get all the information we can to figure out what kind of garden is going to be best because there are so many different types of gardens.

**Caylee:** How many?

**Costa:** Many, many, many, many, many.

[Caylee laughs]

**Costa:** You've given me some good clues to start with Caylee, but I think to find out more, I'm going to have to come and visit.

**Caylee:** Let me ask my mom. Mum. Mum! Can Costa come around to help me with the garden?

**Mum:** Costa? As in from Gardening Buds HQ?

**Caylee:** Yeah.

**Mum:** Of course.

**Caylee:** Cool. Thanks, Mum. Okay. Mum says you can come over.

**Costa:** Fantastic, I'm on my way…

[dial tone sounds]

[music ends]

[sound of a knock at the door]

**Costa:** Caylee!

**Caylee:** Hi, Costa. That was quick. Do you want to come inside?

**Costa:** Of course, but first let's go for a walk and a wander. That's the first step for making a garden, checking out all the gardens in your area and seeing what's doing well.

[sound of birds, wind rustling through trees]

**Caylee:** Let's go.

**Costa:** Whoa. What a great street. There are so many gardens.

**Caylee:** Going for walks is the best. I love being outside. What are some of your favorite kind of gardens?

[music starts]

**Costa:** I love community gardens, botanical gardens, school gardens, veggie gardens.

**Caylee**: Yum. I love vegetables.

**Costa:** Fantastic.

**Caylee:** What other gardens are there?

**Costa:** A pizza garden.

**Caylee:** A pizza garden?

**Costa:** Well, you could call it a herb garden, but it's a bit more fun if you call it a pizza garden because then you grow the plants that you could use on a pizza.

**Caylee:** That's so cool.

[bird screeches]

**Costa:** We could think about vertical gardens.

**Caylee:** What's a vertical garden?

**Costa:** A vertical garden is a garden that you grow up a wall so that you use all that space, and there's so many walls in the city that don't have any green and so you can make them nice and green.

[dog barks]

**Costa:** Oh Caylee, can you see up there? Look at the... That's a rooftop garden up there. Can you see it?

**Caylee:** Whoa. Wait, rooftop garden? What exactly is a rooftop garden?

**Costa**: Well, that's where people have an area up on the roof and people can have plants in pots and grow their garden as though just like it's on the ground.

**Caylee:** Cool.

[kookaburra calls]

**Costa:** Oh, look over there. This is one of my favorite types of garden. This is what we call a verge garden or a street garden.

**Caylee:** A street garden?

**Costa:** You can plant all sorts of things. You can plant street trees. Underneath the trees, you can grow flowers for the bees and the birds. You can sometimes call that a pollinator garden because it attracts all the insects, the bees and the birds and the butterflies and the moths.

**Caylee:** I love butterflies.

**Costa:** And that's making like a hopscotch for the insects. It's like they can go from one little garden there, from that flower, to a flower down there. And then that way they move down the street. We call that a pollinator corridor.

**Caylee**: Pollinator corridor? Whoa.

**Costa:** Ah, Caylee, have a look at this garden. This is a native plant garden. It brings all the native birds and it brings the native bees.

**Caylee:** Oh, I can see the little buzzy bees.

**Costa:** Australian native plant garden is really important if you want to bring the wildlife to your place.

[music ends]

**Caylee**: But how do I know which one's a native flower so I can get the native bees here because I can't tell the difference?

**Costa**: Well, that's why we do what we do here at Gardening Buds. We have the answers because there's no such thing as one garden that works for everyone or every space. They're all different.

**Caylee:** Verge gardens, vertical gardens, rooftop gardens, native gardens. There are so many kinds of gardens. How am I going to know which one's right for me?

**Costa:** Well, Caylee, that's a very good question. It's a combination of what you'd like for your garden, but also what you have. Where you live in the landscape, is it rainy or dry or sunny or windy? All of those things affect what type of garden will grow really well at your place because the more you learn, the more you know, and the more you know, the more you can grow, and the more you can grow, then the more gardens we have and the more nature will be singing your name.

[music starts]

**Costa:** Caylee, Caylee! The frogs will be saying it. Caylee, Caylee!

[Caylee laughs]

**Costa:** The birds are squawking it. Coocoo-Caylee, koo koo kakaka-Caylee!

[Caylee laughs]

**Caylee:** There's so much to think about.

**Costa**: There sure is. And I reckon we should see how much you've remembered from our walk. It's Gardening Buds quiz time.

[funky quiz theme music starts]

**Caylee:** Ooh, I love quizzes. Let's do it.

**Costa:** And you listening at home can play along, too.

**Caylee:** Yeah. Let's see what we remember.

**Costa**: Question one. What is the name for a garden that grows up a wall?

**Caylee:** umm….

**Costa:** It starts with a V.

**Caylee:** Vertical garden?

[sound of a crowd cheering, and kookaburras calling]

**Costa:** Ding, ding, ding.

**Caylee:** Yay, yay, yay.

**Costa**: Question two. What is the name of a garden that attracts birds, bees, and butterflies? All the bees, B B B, birds, bees and butterflies?

**Caylee**: Hmm… A pollina… a pollinator garden.

[sound of a crowd cheering, and kookaburras calling]

**Costa:** Correct.

**Caylee:** Bu-bu-bu-buh-buh!

**Costa:** Question number three. Now Caylee, tell me this. Do you reckon there's such a thing as one garden that works for everyone and every space?

**Caylee:** Hmm… I don't think so. Everybody has different places, so they have to put different plants.

**Costa:** Exactly, because every space grows a different type of garden.

[sound of a crowd cheering, and kookaburras calling]

[quiz music ends]

**Costa:** Thanks for coming on a walk with me today.

**Caylee:** Thank you for showing me around my own neighborhood. I never knew there were so many different types of gardens in my street. It's given me lots of ideas. I’ll have to ask Mum how to get on top of the roof.

**Costa:** hahaha Hang on a sec. Remember not every garden is right for every place or person. Next time I see you, Caylee, we'll take the next steps to get your garden started. We'll do a site assessment.

**Caylee:** A what now?

**Costa:** A site assessment.

**Caylee:** What is a site assessment?

**Costa**: All in good time, sprout.

**Caylee**: Okay. See you next time.

[theme music starts]

**Costa**: Now, for those of you listening at home, I've got a challenge for you. Gardening Buds Challenge of the Week.

[chime sound effect]

**Costa:** Creative goggles on. I challenge you to create a drawing of your perfect garden. What type of garden is it going to be? Is it going to be a pollinator garden? Is it going to be a vegetable garden? Are there going to be flowers in there? Let your imaginations run wild and I'd love to see what you come up with. Ask your grownup to take a photo and send it to ABC Kids Listen. The info is in the show notes. So get your pens and pencils and get creative.

[music ends]

**Costa**: You've been listening to an ABC Kids Listen podcast. For music to move, podcasts to play, stories and soundtracks to sleep, download the ABC Kids Listen app, free from your app store.

[birds sounds end]