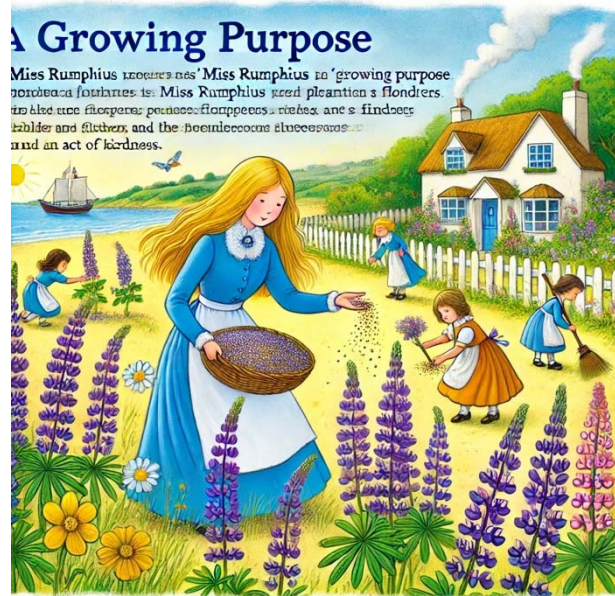


Name _____



A Growing Purpose

Miss Rumphius knows her 'growing purpose' is to plant flowers wherever she goes. She finds an act of kindness.

Growing Purpose

Miss Rumphius did not always know what her purpose in life would be. As a little girl named Alice, she listened to her grandfather's stories about his travels and adventures. She dreamed of following in his footsteps—seeing the world and living in a house by the sea. But her grandfather had one more piece of advice: she must also find a way to make the world more beautiful.

At first, Alice did not fully understand what that meant. As she grew up, she

became Miss Rumphius, a woman eager to explore. She traveled to faraway lands, climbed mountains, crossed deserts, and met many different people. She loved every new experience, but deep down, she wondered—was traveling enough? Had she truly made the world more beautiful?

When she finally settled into a small home by the sea, Miss Rumphius found herself thinking more about her grandfather's words. She had accomplished her first two dreams, but she had not yet completed the last. Then, one spring, she noticed a small patch of wild lupine flowers growing near her home. Their bright purple, pink, and blue petals swayed in the wind, and suddenly, she knew what to do.

Miss Rumphius began collecting and scattering lupine seeds wherever she went. She planted them on hillsides, along roads, and in empty fields. Over time, the flowers spread, filling the landscape with color and life. The townspeople noticed and were inspired by her kindness. Some planted their own flowers, while others found different ways to bring beauty into the world.

Through this journey, Miss Rumphius changed. At first, she only thought about what she wanted to do—traveling and living by the sea. But as she grew older, she realized that true fulfillment comes from giving back. By planting flowers, she left behind something that would continue to grow, just like her grandfather had hoped.

Her story teaches us that as we grow, our understanding of success and purpose can change. Miss Rumphius discovered that making the world more beautiful is not just about seeing its wonders, but also about leaving something good behind for others.