

Plant A Seed Project

In this lesson, we will be planting seeds and observing changes day to day. It is especially fun to do both activities on the same day, with the same type of seed! You will have an “x-ray” view in the germination viewer of what is going on under the dirt. Did both seeds grow leaves at the same time? Why or why not?

MATERIALS

IN SOIL

- Soil
- Seeds
- Trowel
- Small Pot (Optional)
- Journal (Optional)

IN GERMINATION VIEW

- Clear plastic zipper lock bag, snack or sandwich sized
- 1 paper towel
- Seeds
- Tape
- Permanent Parker
- Sunny window that is easily seen from outside
- Journal (optional)

PROCEDURES

IN SOIL

- 1) Find a place outside where you can plant a seed in the ground, or acquire a small pot.
- 2) *Outside:* Use your trowel to dig a hole in the ground (6” deep and 6” wide). Remove any stones you find. Refill your hole with the soil you removed, leaving it loose. *In a pot:* Fill your pot $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way full with potting soil. Gently press the soil down to compact it a bit.
- 3) Press into the center of your (filled) hole or your pot with your finger, making a hole about 1” deep.
- 4) Set a seed in the hole.
- 5) Cover the seed with a little bit more soil and gently press it down with your hand.
- 6) Give your newly planted seed a little bit of water every day!
- 7) Watch for your seed to sprout! Every day, record in your journal when you water your seed, and draw a picture every day of what you see in your pot/plot!

IN GERMINATION VIEW

- 1) Fold your paper towel so it fits snugly (but smoothly!) in your baggie.
- 2) Moisten the towel (use a spray bottle, or wet in sink and gently squeeze so it’s wet but not dripping).
- 3) Gently insert the paper towel into the baggie, keeping it flat and smooth.
- 4) Slide your seeds into the baggie, so they rest on one side of the paper towel.
- 5) Zip your baggie tightly, removing as much air as possible. This should help keep the seeds in place!
- 6) Write the date and type of seed on the back of your baggie.
- 7) Tape the baggie on the inside of a sunny window, with the seeds facing outward.
- 8) Everyday, check on your seeds! You should start to see changes happening!
- 9) Keep track of these changes. Draw a picture of how the seed looks in a journal every day. Make sure to label the different parts of the growing plant!