

Sow the Seeds

Question: What happens when seeds sprout?

Do seeds of different plants sprout the same and look the same?

Research: Read about seeds in an encyclopedia or textbook. Have students draw pictures of different seeds and then have them draw what they think will grow out of them.

Hypothesis: Get students to describe what will happen when the seeds sprout and mature. Record their answers to initial questions and hypothesis.

MATERIALS:

2 large sponge

2 large shallow dish

Plastic wrap

Metric ruler

10 bean seeds (dried beans)

10 radish seeds (or grass seeds)

PROCEDURE:

1. Soak seeds in separate containers of water over night. Seeds sprout best if soaked over night.
2. Rinse the sponges in clean water and squeeze out the water. If you are using paper towels, fold them in half and do not wet them yet.)
3. Place the sponges (paper towels) in the bottom of the dish. (If you are using paper towels, wet the towels slightly now.)
4. Lay one or two rows of each kind of seeds across the sponges. The seeds may touch but must not overlap.
5. Cover the dish with plastic wrap.
6. In your notes, make a chart to record your observations. The day you plant the seeds is Day 1. Record the date for each observation.

DATA: Record your data for six days. Day 1 should be first day of sprouting.

	Date	Beans	Grass or Radish
Day 1			
Size			
Shape			
Color			
Day 2			
Size			
Shape			
Color			
Day 3			
Size			
Shape			
Color			
Day 4			
Size			
Shape			
Color			
Day 5			
Size			
Shape			
Color			
Day 6			
Size			
Shape			
Color			

Conclusion: Ask the question that was asked at the beginning of the activity. Encourage the students to explain how their answers have changed and why.