



Lesson Plan
Agriculture | Week 4

Watch Me Grow

Goal

Students will learn how to grow a seed into a plant and measure it's growth over the course of 2-3 weeks.

Materials

Books to Read

- A Place to Grow by Stephanie Bloom
- Oh Say Can You Seed? By Dr. Seuss

Supplies for Each Student

- Lima beans
- Paper towels
- Gallon size storage bags
- Soil
- Plastic cups (9 oz)
- Water
- Cola
- Manila paper (optional)
- Hole punch (optional)
- Yarn or ribbon (optional)

Activities

Read a book to students to learn about seeds and how seed grow. Suggestions include *A Place to Grow* and *Oh Say Can You Seed?*

Procedure (taken from brighthubeducation.com):

Before doing these science activities, you can make a science journal for your students. Students can put predictions and observations in the journal. Fold the manila paper in half and punch three holes along the margin. Bind the journal with the yarn or ribbon. You can also bind the journal by stapling it.

Give every student a paper towel and a Lima bean. Allow students to wet their paper towels, and then have them place the Lima bean inside of it. After that, pass out a gallon sized storage bag to every student. Write students' names on the bags. Then, hang them somewhere in the classroom or the hallway.

Explain to students that the Lima bean will act like a seed. Ask students what they think will happen to the Lima beans. Ask them if they think the Lima bean will sprout without soil. Have students draw a picture of what they think is going to happen.

These usually sprout within a couple of days. Have students check their plants daily. Have them replace the paper towels as they dry out. Have students sketch a drawing of their plants every few days, which they could place in their science journals.

Divide students into groups of two or three. Give every group two cups and a handful of Lima beans. Go around and scoop soil into both cups for every group. Have students place the Lima beans into the cup. Make sure that they place the Lima beans into the soil.

One cup will be watered with water, and the other cup will be watered with cola. Be sure to mark which cup will be water and which one will be cola. Talk about what students think is going to happen. Talk about if students think the plant watered with cola will grow and if it will grow as fast. Have students make predictions.

Water the plants every other day with water or cola. Be sure not to over water. Have students check on their plants daily and sketch something every few days.

Pictographs would provide a wonderful way to show students' predictions. Give every student a sticker and have them place their sticker by the prediction they agree with.

After finishing these activities, a group measurement project would provide another math connection. Have students measure how much their Lima bean grew in the storage bag. Have students brainstorm ideas that might help their plants grow more next time.

After the cola activity, simply have students compare the lengths of the plant watered with water and the plant watered with soda. Help students use a basic ruler to measure how big each plant grew.