



Science



Literacy

GARDEN IN A GLOVE

Grade Level

K-5

Length of Lesson

45 minutes

Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will have a better understanding of seed germination.

Materials Needed (per student)

- Clear, plastic glove (food service gloves work well)
- 5 cotton balls
- 5 types of seeds
- Pencil
- Water
- Yarn
- Marker

Standards

Common Core:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.9; RL.K.10; RI.K.9; RI.K.10; W.K.3; W.K.7; W.K.8; SL.K.3; RI.4.7; SL.4.1

NGSS:

K-LS1-1; K-ESS3-1; 2-LS2-1; 3-LS1-1; 3-LS3; 3-LS4; 5-LS2-1

Lesson Summary

This lesson is designed to show students how seeds begin to turn into plants and what seeds need for germination.

Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Set Up: Pass out supplies to each student and have them write their names on their gloves.
2. Read "[Oh Say Can You Seed?](#)" by Bonne Worth to capture student interest.
3. Read the IL AITC Soil Ag Mag to learn about soil. Interactive online versions can be found on our website.
4. Complete the activity following the procedures:
 - Label each finger of the glove with the type of seed you will be planting.
 - Wet five cotton balls and wring them out.
 - Dip each cotton ball in a different type of seed.
 - Put each cotton ball with the seeds attached into each finger of the glove. (hint: you may have to use a pencil to get the cotton ball all the way to the tips of the glove fingers)
 - Blow a little air into the glove and then tie it closed at the top with a piece of yarn.
 - Tape the glove to a window, chalkboard, or wall. You may want to hang a clothes line under a chalk tray and use clothes pins to hold the gloves on.
 - The seeds will germinate in 3 to 5 days.
 - Transplant the seeds at about 1 1/2 to 2 weeks by cutting the tips of the fingers off the glove.
 - Transplant the small plants, cotton ball and all, into soil or sphagnum moss.
5. Whole class discussion and reflection of activity. Keep a plant growth journal as you go! Then, have students discuss their growth with a partner or in small groups.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Extension Ideas:

- Teach or review the term 'germination.'
- Read "[The Curious Garden](#)" by Peter Brown and talk about the importance of gardening and hard work.
- Have students draw or take pictures of their observations on their plant growth.
- Have students measure the growth of their plants and record the data on a graph.
- Scientific Inquiry: What do seeds need to germinate? Create a list of what students think a seed needs in order to germinate, and then test those variables. Once the plants germinate, does they need different nutrients/conditions to survive?
- Have students research a native Illinois flower and its usual pollinators.
 - Students can write a paper about their findings.
- Draw comic strips that show an understanding of seed germination and growth.
- If transplanting seeds to pots, have students decorate their pots before they plant their seeds.
- Learn about the difference of "soil" vs. "dirt."
- Learn about different Illinois pollinators!
- Have students write a paragraph about the importance of pollinators.
- Go to agintheclassroom.org to contact your County Literacy Coordinator for free classroom sets of our Ag Mags!