

Cross Curricular Activity: Science

Lesson: *What Does a Seed Need to Grow?*

Grade Level: 1-3

Overview: Plants need four main components to survive. They need water, light, nutrients and soil. The exercise will give students the opportunity to grow plants and see the affect of light on a plant.

Approximate Duration: This exercise will use 30 minutes of class time on the first day and 10 minutes each day after for one week.

National Social Studies Standards: NS.K- 4.3 Life Science
http://www.educationworld.com/standards/national/science/k_4.shtml

Objective: Students will learn about meeting the basic needs of plants.

Procedure:

Materials:

- Bean seeds or sprout seeds
- Pencils
- Paper
- Clear plastic cups

Steps 1-5 take place during the first class.

1. Ask your students what they need to survive. Food? Water? Oxygen?
2. Sprout seeds in clear plastic cups with wet paper towels. Place only one seed per cup.
3. Place some of the cups in the windowsill and some in a dark corner of the room.
4. Discuss with your students what plants need to grow.
5. Ask your students what they think will happen with their seeds. Ask which will grow the fastest.

Assessment:

- As time goes on you and your class can continue to examine the cups to see how the seeds have grown.
- Have your students keep a daily journal of what is taking place with each set of seeds. Drawings pictures of the plants progress is another great way for students to chart the growth of the seedlings after they sprout!
- After a week's time ask the students if their predictions were correct. Explain that plants use light to make food and this is called **photosynthesis**.

Inspired by: <http://www.eduref.org/cgi-bin/printlessons.cgi/Virtual/Lessons/Science>