

How Do Seeds Grow?



This experiment uses 3 samples to examine the growth of seeds.

Directions - Preparation:

- Fold the paper towel in half and crease. Unfold. (you can double your paper towel to make it a bit sturdier if you like)
- Poke three very small holes, equally spaced, along the fold of the paper towel (we used a sharp pencil to do this)
- Place the seeds over top of the holes (one over each hole).
- Fold the paper towel back up and staple up the side (to make a pouch).
- Label the top of the paper towel (bean, corn and radish)
- Carefully place the paper towel (fold side down, so the seeds don't fall out) into the ziploc bag.
- Tape the ziploc bag onto the piece of card stock, leaving the top open. Tape as firmly as possible.
- Pour a small amount of water into the ziploc bag (the paper towel should end up damp). Do not close the bag.
- Hang your experiment on the wall in a bright location.

Directions - Maintenance:

- Each morning, check the experiment. Pour more water in to keep the paper towel moist.
- Peek inside the ziploc bag/paper towel to see what the seed is doing
- The seed should break open. The roots should grow down through the small hole you poked in the paper towel.

What you need:

- three seeds -- corn, bean and radish
- 8 1/2 x 11 inch piece of cardstock or light cardboard
- ziploc or plastic lunch bag
- paper towel
- tape
- water
- 2 to 4 weeks of experiment time
- Optional: Magnifying glass
- Optional: [Label the Seed Growth Worksheet](#)

Safety Considerations:

Activity should be supervised by an adult.

Some seeds have a pinkish coloured poison covering them so that insects don't get to them. Do **not** use seeds with this coating.