

Plants & Animals Activity Bag

Needs of Plants: Student Activity Guide

What do living things need to live? We will explore this question as we grow a sunflower from seed.

Materials From The Bag

- Small Plastic Bag
- Pipette (Dropper)
- 2 Small Plastic Cups
- Taster Spoon
- Planter Pot
- Soil Tab
- Sunflower Seeds (from your teacher)

You Will Need

- Paper Towel
- Scissors
- Water
- Science Notebook or Student Activity Sheet from the teacher

Part 1: Exploration

What do you think plants need to live?

1. Get a sunflower seed from your teacher.
2. Look at the sunflower seed. Draw your seed and complete the “I notice, I wonder” chart.
3. Do you think the sunflower seed is alive? Why or why not?

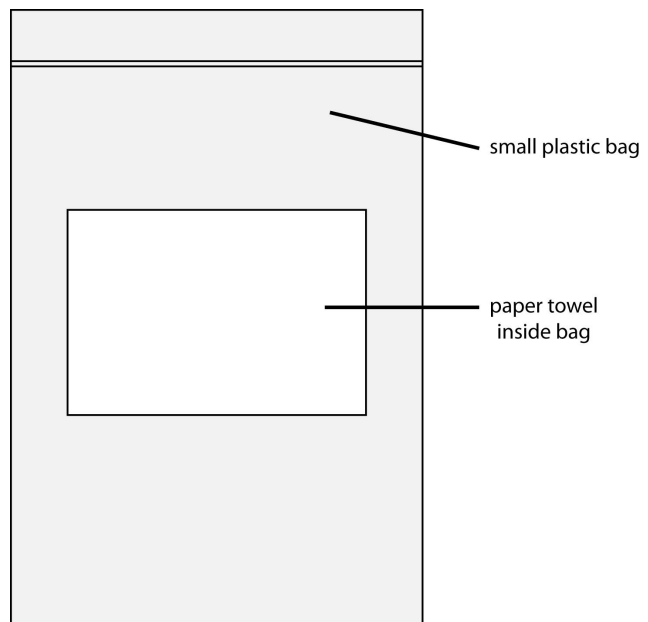
Part 2: Seeds

Make Your Bag

1. Get a paper towel from your teacher.
2. Cut a piece of paper towel about this size:

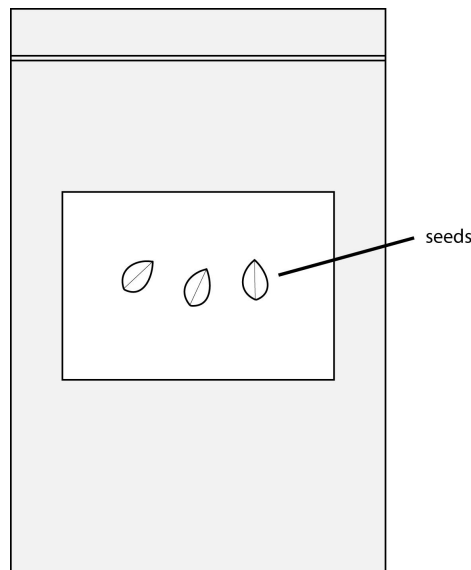
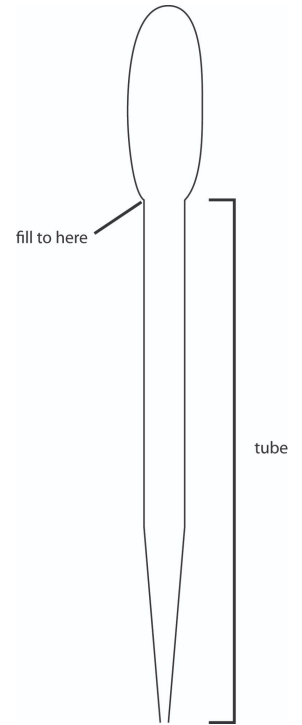


3. Open the bag. Place the bag flat on your desk. Place the paper towel in the middle of the bag.



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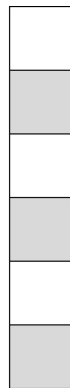
4. Fill one small plastic cup half-way with water.
5. Look at the picture to the right. Practice using your pipette. Your goal is to fill up the tube.
6. Keep your bag on your desk. Use your pipette, and add three tubes of water in your bag. The paper towel will get wet.
7. Get two more seeds from your teacher.
8. Place the three seeds on the paper towel.



9. Press on the bag to get the air out. Seal the bag. **Do not open the bag again. Save the cup and pipette.**

Observations

1. Find **Day 1** on your activity sheet. Draw your bag and complete the “I notice, I wonder” chart.
2. Ask your teacher where to place your bag. You will observe the bag for a few days.
3. The next day get your bag.
4. Draw your bag and complete the “I notice, I wonder” chart. Put your bag back.
5. Repeat for **five days**.
6. Cut out your measuring tool on page 7.
7. On **Day 5** measure your plants using the tool.



This plant is 6
squares tall.

Look at your measurements.

8. Which plant is the tallest? How do you know?

9. What plant is the shortest? How do you know?

Part 3: Digging In

Look at your bag. Do you think the seeds are alive? Why or why not?

What do seeds need to grow?

1. Look at your teacher's bag and compare it to your bag.

2. Complete the "I notice, I wonder" chart.

What's Happening...

Plants need water and light. The plants need light to make food. The plant's color helps attract the light. What else does your plant need to grow?

Part 4: Grow a Sunflower Challenge

Your challenge is to grow a sunflower. It will need water, light, air, and soil.

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1. Get the soil tablet. Remove the mesh. Put the tablet in a small plastic cup.
2. Fill another small plastic cup half-way with water. Pour the water until it covers the soil tablet. Wait for ten minutes.
3. Put the soil in your planter pot.
4. Get three seeds from your teacher. Place them in the soil. Be sure all seeds are covered.
5. Make a plan. You get to decide:
 - a. How much to water your seeds?
 - b. What days to water your seeds?
 - c. How much light to give your seeds?
 - d. Anything else.
6. Keep track of what you do on your Student Activity Sheet.
7. Your goal is to grow a sunflower. Fill out your seed/plant chart each day.

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It will take about three months to grow a sunflower. After about two weeks, where do you want it to live? The planter pot can be planted into a bigger pot or outside in the ground. Sunflowers can be planted outside when it's no longer cold. April-June are good times to start.

Sunflowers can grow to be 10 feet tall! They need space to grow.

They do not grow well if they are close. You can choose to grow all of your plants or just one. If you grow one, remove the other plants.

Sunflowers need lots of light. If you keep them inside, be sure your plant gets a lot of light.

Measuring Tool
→

