

Pocket Germination

Age: Pre-K to 5th grade

Time: 10-15 minutes (depends on age)

Group Size: up to 20

By the end of this activity, participants will be able to explain seed germination and what a plant needs beyond water to grow.

Materials Needed:

- 2”X 3” plastic jewelry baggies
- Seeds – green bean seeds are great size to work with and see
- Soil Moist – can be found at garden centers
- Water
- Plastic Spoons



Preparations:

- 1) Add 4 cups of water to 1 TBS of soil moist. The soil moist crystals will absorb the water. Allow an hour for the crystal to absorb fully the water (This will fill approximately 60 baggies).
- 2) If students are 2nd grade or lower, prepare bags ahead. Place 1 tsp. of prepared soil moist jell into baggies.

Instructions:

- 1) If not prepared ahead; give each student a spoon to place 1 tsp. of prepared soil moist jell into a baggie.
- 2) Each student will place one seed into the baggie, push out the air, and close the top.
The seeds will have the moisture they need to germinate.
- 3) Place the baggie into a pocket.
This provides warm conditions to help the seed germinate.
- 4) The seed will germinate in 3-4 days.
- 5) Students can then plant the seed in soil that will provide the nutrients the plant will need to grow.

*For pre-K and kindergarten you can tie the baggie to a string to make a necklace.

