



SEED PLANTING

Get Ready!

Place of Learning: Classroom or Garden if the correct season

Grade Level: K

Objectives and standards:

- For students to understand that plants have a life cycle--they go from seed to plant
- For students to understand how to behave in the garden
- For students to learn about the needs of a plant and how they will be taking care of those plant needs while it is growing
- For students to predict what they believe will happen when the seed begins to grow
- *K-LS1-1 Observe and communicate that animals (including humans) and plants need food, water and air to survive. Animals get food from plants and other animals. Plants make their own food and need light to live and grow.*

Summary: Students plant lettuce seeds while learning about plant care. They predict what will happen.

Materials:

Lettuce seeds from garden

Potting soil

Grow lights

Pots

Preparation:

Lessons 1 and 2:

Students understand the needs of a plant

Students have harvested the seeds

NOTE: *It is recommended NOT to put children's names on "their" seeds/plants for a number of reasons. One reason is to move away from the notion of ownership; instead present plants as gifts from nature. Another reason is: not all seeds will sprout. This is a hard truth of the garden that is much easier to handle if the lesson doesn't just fall on one child.*



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Let's Go!

Introduction:

Review the needs of a plant with students in small groups with questions such as:

Where is their air coming from?

Where is their water for the seed coming from?

How will the plant get light?

What does it mean to love a seed/plant?

Activity:

Lead through the steps of the planting process. Plant the seeds in containers and have teachers commit to taking turns watering the plants. *Plant one large container that will be allowed to go to seed to illustrate the life cycle.*

Wrap Up/REINFORCEMENT/IN CLASS:

Ask students to predict what they think will happen to the lettuce seeds they planted. *NOTE: As an adult the corollary on lettuce seeds sprouting lettuce plants seems obvious, but remember these are little ones, so make sure to make that point explicit.* This is also a good time to tell students that not all plants will grow. Students can log all of the plants' progress through journals or photos of their plant at regular intervals (maybe after 3 days of growth have happened). For students that seem ready for the concept, teachers can introduce reading seed packs and discussing seed depth while planting.