

Growing Beans in a Bag

THE
LITTLE
RED HEN



Domain:

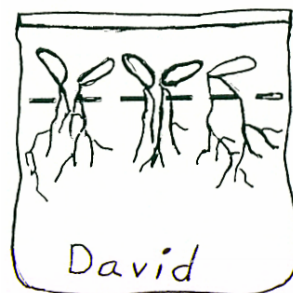
- Cognitive, Language, Fine Motor

Objectives:

- Child will demonstrate knowledge of how seeds grow into plants.
- Child will participate in the planting process.
- Child will identify these parts of the bean plants as they grow:
leaves, stems, roots

Materials:

- One Zip-lock bag per child
- Five green bean seeds per child
- One paper towel per child
- Permanent marker
- Tape
- Stapler



Instructions:

- Use permanent marker to write children's name on their individual zip-lock bag.
- Fold paper towel to fit at the bottom of each bag.
- Make a horizontal row of staples about 2 inches below the top of the bag.
- Allow children to place five bean seeds above the staples in the zip-lock bag.
- Water the seeds by pouring $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of water in each bag. (keep the water level below the staples.)
- Seal the zip-lock bags only part way to allow oxygen in the bags.
- Use tape to fasten bags onto a sunny window with the child's name visible.
- Discuss the growth of the beans with students individually or as part of group language lessons.
- Point out the different parts of the plants. (stems, leaves and roots)



Additional Planting and Garden Ideas

1. Collect plastic containers with clear lids, the kind used for take-out salads. Provide one for each child. Fill the bottom with dirt. Allow children to select the type of flower they want to plant. Plant seeds and close the clear lid. You now have a mini-green house. Children can watch plants grow. Attach a picture of the plant with growing instructions to provide information for parents.
2. Plant vegetables or flower seed in a clear plastic cup so that children can watch as the roots grow.
3. Scoop out a potato. Fill with wet cotton balls. Sprinkle with grass seed. Add google eyes. Keep cotton moist and place in the sun. Watch the potato head grow hair.
4. Plant grass seed on a wet sponge. Keep it damp by placing it in a small tray of water. Sprinkle grass or bird seed on top. Place in the sun.
5. Create an inside garden using a washtub, large pot, or old water table. Fill with potting soil. Make a class project by working together to plant and label seeds. Place near a sunny window. Assign the daily task of using a small watering can to keep seeds moist. Move planter outdoors if desired.
6. Place a potato or carrot in a jar, root end down so that one-third is covered by water. A potato can be held upright with toothpicks. These toothpicks can rest on rim of jar. Have the children water as needed. Roots should grow out from the bottom and shoots from the top. Then plant the root in soil for an attractive plant.

