

Home Greenhouse

Grades P-2

Time- 15-30 minutes

NYSSLS Connections

P. Life Sciences

K. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems: Animals, Plants, and Their Environment

2. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems

Home Greenhouse

In this engaging and rewarding activity, students will make predictions as to what a seed needs to grow before creating their own home greenhouse. Students will observe the stages of a plant's growth over time.

Materials

Clear zip-lock baggies

Cotton balls

Tape

Seeds (any kind, although beans and sunflower seeds usually work well)

Water

Seed Observation Worksheet (below)

Procedure

1. Begin this activity by informing students that they will be growing plants. Ask students the following questions- "what do plants need to grow?" and "how do plants begin their life cycle?" Students should know that plants need sunlight and water to grow and that seeds begin their life as a seed.
2. Prepare the "greenhouse". Wet two or three cotton balls with water and put them in the baggie. Discuss these steps. Ask, "why do the cotton balls need to be wet?" or "why are we putting it in a clear bag?".
3. Place two or three seeds of choice in the baggie and seal it tightly.
4. Have students record their observations every few days to document the plant's growth.

Wrap Up and Extensions

Once the seeds have sprouted, students may plant their seeds outside to further observe and document their growth, if possible.

Additionally, students may be asked if they have any further questions about how plants grow. Students may then devise an experiment to answer those questions.



My Greenhouse



Observe and draw what your plant looks like every other day!

Day 1	Day 3	Day 5	Day 7
Day 11	Day 13	Day 15	Day 17
Day 19	Day 21	Day 23	Day 25