

# Seed Germination

Adapted from the Junior Master Gardener: <https://jmgkids.us/kids-zone/jmgkidsweb/seed-case/>



Seeds are the key to new life but very few people ever get to see what happens when a new plant is born. From the roots to the leaves, each portion of a plant has an important job. Watch a seed sprout and grow using some basic household items.

**Objective:** Identify the basic parts of a plant and understand how plants grow and mature over time.

**Project:** Gardening/Plant Science- Bingo Day 12

**Ages:** 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Time:** 1 hour

**Supplies:**

- Slim CD case or sandwich size baggie
- Coffee filter or single paper towel
- Small plastic container
- 5-6 Seeds
- Tape
- Water Soluble Glue- optional



**Activity Directions:**

1. Fold the coffee filter to the size of the CD case.
2. Open the CD case and lay the coffee filter into the case. Leave a small tail sticking out of the hinge area of the case.
3. Wet the coffee filter with water. It does not need to be completely soaked but should be sufficiently wet to hold the seeds in place.
4. Lay the seeds out evenly across the coffee filter or paper towel. (Use a small drop of water-soluble glue if the seeds will not stay in place.)
5. Close the lid of the case and put a small piece of tape over the top to keep the lid secured shut.
6. Place the CD case into a small plastic container. Add enough water to the container so that the tail of the coffee filter can reach it.
7. Place it in front of a window and check the water level periodically. The coffee filter will draw the water up to the seeds.
8. If using a baggie, make sure to add a few small holes to the bottom side of the bag to draw the water up. Also, your baggie will need some support to stand up, be creative in your structure or tape it to the window.

**Facilitation Questions:**

- What is the first thing you see? How long did it take the seeds to sprout?
- Did all the seeds sprout at the same time?
- What was the first part of the plant to emerge?
- Were those parts of the plant oriented correctly (roots down, leaves up, etc.)
- Beside the leaves and roots, what other parts of the plant can you recognize?