

Bean Bag of Buddies



Objective: Will the beans from your kitchen cupboards sprout into a bean plant? There is only one way to find out! We'll find seeds in the kitchen and put them in the conditions that will cause them to germinate.

Materials:

- Plastic zipper bag
- Various seeds from around the kitchen
- White napkin or paper towel
- Water
- Tape

Getting started: What is it called when a seed starts to grow? *Germination.* What do seeds require to germinate or sprout? *They require water and the right temperature.* They don't need soil to sprout.

What are the seeds you might find in the kitchen cupboard? *Different types of beans like pinto beans or garbanzo beans, lentils, rice, possibly spices like whole coriander, cumin or mustard seeds.*

Activity:

1. With parental permission, search your kitchen cupboards or drawers for dried seeds. You might think about beans, but what about spices. Collect just one or two of each seed that you can find.
2. Take your paper towel or napkin and fold it in half and open it back up again to make a crease. Drip about one tablespoon of water around your towel or napkin. You want it to be very damp, but not dripping.
3. Add your seeds to the crease in the paper and then fold the damp paper half over the seeds.
4. Place the damp paper containing the seeds inside the plastic zipper bag so that the seeds are lined up across the bottom of the bag.
5. Tape the bag up to a window in the house. This makes it easier to see how the seeds may be changing and gives the seeds a little light and warmth. Sprouting seeds like warmth.
6. You may need to spray or drop a little more water into your bean bag to make sure it stays damp.
7. Complete the attached scientific observation worksheet.



Bean Bag of Buddies Worksheet

Name:

Date:

1. What type of seeds did you find in your kitchen?
2. What do you predict will happen to the seeds?
3. Do you think all seeds will behave the same way? Explain
4. On the next page draw and label your bean bag seeds on day 1, day 4, day 8, and day 12:
5. Describe one way your seeds reacted the same and one way they reacted differently?
6. What surprised you about your seed germination investigation?
7. What question do you have about your observations?
8. What caused the seeds to change?
9. Is a seed alive and why?



Draw and label your bean bag seeds on the 1st day you start the investigation, then again on the 4th, 8th, and 12th days. Label and measure to add details about your observations.

Date: _____ Day 1

Date: _____ Day 4

Date: _____ Day 8

Date: _____ Day 12