

Grow your own Beanstalk!

I thought we could do a little growing project - it's so easy that you do not have to be a great gardener to be successful!

Also, there's an opportunity for writing, maths, science and general awe and wonder!

You will need a clear tumbler or plastic water bottle with the top cut off; some kitchen towel, bean seeds and a little water.

Just roll one folded piece of kitchen roll around your hand and put inside the cup/bottle. Put your seeds down the side between the paper and the cup. Add some water until the paper is soaked.



On a piece of paper your child can write:

Planted:

Root:

Shoot:

Write the date you start the seed.

Keep it well watered, I put extra kitchen paper in the middle to keep it wet as it was so hot.

Within a week, keep checking, you should see a root emerge.



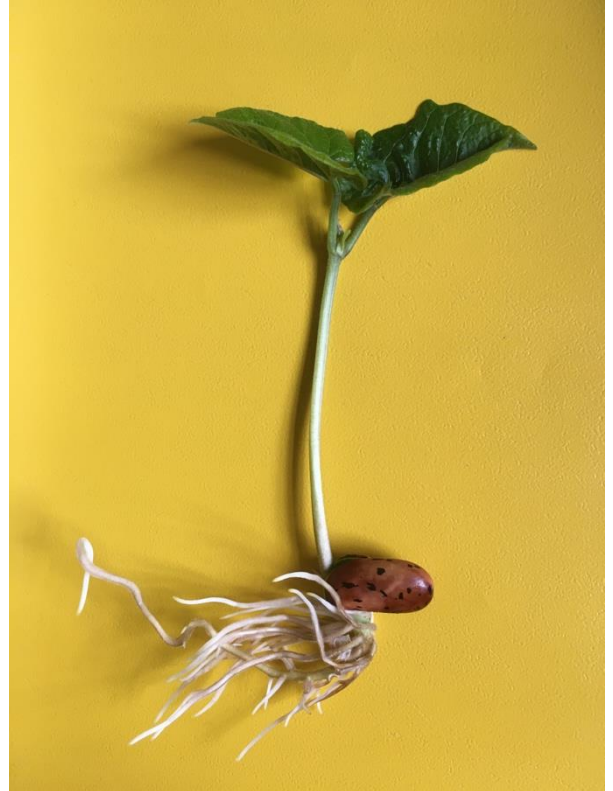
Then, record the date the root appears. Your child can work out how many days each stage took.



If you're growing two or more beans, were they the same or different?



Soon, a shoot should follow. Your child can record that too and then watch as the shoot grows and grows!



Once your bean reaches a size where it is outgrowing the cup, you can plant it in soil in a plant pot or out in the garden.

Your child can keep on recording your bean's progress; when it grows so tall that it needs a cane to grow up; when the first flowers come and then the first bean pods begin to grow.

Of course, you will end up harvesting and eating your beans!

A second opportunity for writing comes with the amazing beanstalk that appears!

Maybe your child can write an adventure story about what happened when their Bear climbed the Beanstalk.....?

I have done this activity with many children over the years and I still feel excited when I see that first sign of the root!

All the best Sara