

Seed Starter

Take-home Activity Snapshot

Related “My American Farm” Game



That's Life
Available at www.myamericanfarm.org

Grade Levels

- Third - Fifth

Content Area

- Science

Standards

NS.K-4.1, NS.5-8.1 Science as Inquiry

NS.K-4.3, NS.5-8.3 Life Science

National Science Education Standards, National Academies of Science

What Will You Do?

In this activity you will create an environment for seeds to grow in a clear plastic glove which can hang in your window!

Supplies You'll Need

- Clear plastic food-service glove (1) *Note that this is not a stretchy, latex, medical glove, but a loose fitting, thin, food-service grade glove.
- Cotton balls (5-10)
- Seeds (5-10)
- Ribbon
- Single Hole Punch/Scissors
- Tape
- Water

Getting Ready

This is an activity that is fun to do at home with your family. To get ready, clear an area to work and find all of your supplies. You even get to pick the seeds you will use! Beans from your cupboard are great seeds, because they are large and easy to see when they sprout. You may choose other seeds as well!

Build Your Seed Starter: Step-by-Step

Step 1: Preparation

Take the plastic glove and spread it out flat. There are five fingers, which means you have five little growing areas for your seeds!

Step 2: Ribbon Hanger

Using a single hole punch or scissors, make 4-6 holes around the top of the glove, about an inch from the edge. Lace your ribbon through these holes and leave about a 6 inch tail on the end. You will use this tail to hang your glove window-box!

Step 3: Preparing the Growing Area

Place 1-2 cotton balls in each finger and push all the way to the fingertip. Make sure the cotton balls fully cover the tip of the finger.

Step 4: Time to Plant!

Carefully place 1-2 seeds (depending on size) in each finger tip, between the glove and the cotton ball.

Step 5: Water

Add just enough water to each fingertip to make the cotton balls damp.

Step 6: Hang it Up!

Carefully tie the ends of your ribbon into a knot. Don't pull





the ribbons tight, because we want to leave the top open for watering. With adult permission, use a few pieces of tape to hang your glove window-box in a sunny window from this ribbon.

Step 7: Check In!

Check your glove daily. When the cotton balls are dry, add a little more water. You always want your cotton balls damp, but not soaking wet.

Step 8: Clean Up

Make sure to clean up your area and put all tools or supplies back where you found them.

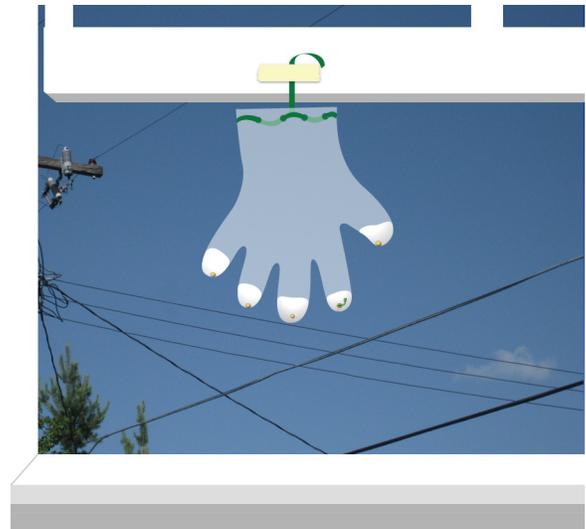
Step 9: Watch your Seeds Grow!

Watch your seeds grow! Farmers and ranchers around the country study plants and how they grow, so that they can grow amazing plants and animals for you! Now you get to be the farmer, as you watch the lifecycle of a plant unfold before your very eyes!

Fun Enrichment Activity:

- Do you want to learn more about growing plants? Pick out 4 different seeds and create 4 separate plastic glove window boxes. Label each using a permanent marker to show which seed is growing. Hypothesize (predict) which seed will sprout first. Hang in the same window and learn about the lifecycle of each seed!
- Keep a journal of observations as you start your seeds. When you are done, look back at your journal and learn from your experience.

Hang in an open or closed window. Check out the image below!



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