



## Plant Seeds & Watch Them Grow

Learn about seed germination with this fun science experiment for kids. Plant some seeds and follow the growth of the seedlings as they sprout from the soil while making sure to take proper care of them with just the right amount of light, heat and water. Have fun growing plants with this cool science project for children.

### What you'll need:

- Fresh seeds of your choice such as pumpkins seeds, sunflower seeds, lima beans or pinto beans.
- Good quality soil (loose, aerated, lots of peat moss), if you don't have any you can buy some potting soil at your local garden store.
- A container to hold the soil and your seeds.
- Water.
- Light and heat.

### Instructions:

1. Fill the container with soil.
2. Plant the seeds inside the soil.
3. Place the container somewhere warm, sunlight is good but try to avoid too much direct sunlight, a window sill is a good spot.
4. Keep the soil moist by watering it every day (be careful not to use too much water).
5. Record your observations as the seeds germinate and seedlings begin to sprout from the seeds.

### What's happening?

Hopefully after a week of looking after them, your seedlings will be on their way. Germination is the process of a plant emerging from a seed and beginning to grow. For seedlings to grow properly from a seed they need the right conditions.

Water and oxygen are required for seeds to germinate. Many seeds germinate at a temperature just above normal room temperature but others respond better to warmer temperatures, cooler temperatures or even changes in temperature. While light can be an important trigger for germination, some seeds actually need darkness to germinate, if you buy seeds it should mention the requirements for that specific type of seed in the instructions. Continue to look after your seedlings and monitor their growth.

1. What would happen if we didn't water the seeds?
2. What would happen if we didn't give the seeds soil?
3. What would happen if we kept the seeds in the cold?

This experiment was taken from Science Kids at

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments/seedgermination.html>