

Day Three, Lesson #3

Time Estimate: 20-30 minutes
Content Area: Science
Grouping: Individual

Objectives

- ◆The student will follow step-by-step instructions to plant a peanut.
- ◆The student will create a chart or journal to record the growth of their peanut plant.

Materials

- ◆Large, clear cup
- ◆Sand or sandy loam soil
- ◆3-5 peanuts for each student
- ◆Plastic spoons
- ◆Permanent markers
- ◆Paper towels

Procedure

1. Use raw peanuts (usually found in the produce department or farmer's market). Soak them overnight.
2. Give each student the following list of instructions:
 - A. Get a cup. Write your name on it with a permanent marker.
 - B. Make a small drainage hole in the bottom of your cup.
 - C. Place sand to within one inch of the top of your cup.
 - D. Plant 3-5 peanuts about 2 inches deep in the soil. Press the soil firmly, but do not pack.
 - E. Hold a paper towel under your cup. Moisten soil with water, but do not soak.
 - F. Place cup in a warm spot on windowsill with a paper towel under it.
 - G. Create your own chart or journal to keep a record of your peanuts' growth. [You may provide an example if necessary.] Make your first entry today.
3. Review directions together. Provide two or three stations in the room where children can carry out the task independently.

Lesson #3 continued

4. Keep plant in warm room and exposed to direct sunlight as much as possible.
5. In two to three weeks the plants should sprout. About two weeks after sprouting the plants should be transplanted into a larger pot (about 12 inches in diameter) or a ten gallon aquarium. The aquarium allows students to see the peanuts growing underground. If you cannot drill a drainage hole in the aquarium put a layer of rocks at the bottom to allow some drainage and be careful not to over-water. Considering classroom space, you may want to send the plants home with students and only replant a few in the classroom for everyone to watch.
6. Blooms should appear on the plant approximately 45 days after the plant has emerged. Mark these days on the calendar for follow-up:

14 days	Sprouts
45 days	Blooms
90 days	Peanuts

Assessment Questions

- Can student follow step-by-step instructions?
- Does student provide adequate care for plant?
- Does student make entries in chart or journal?