

## **Plant Food Experiments**

**Grade: 5 - 7**

### **ACTIVITY**

### **Do Plants Eat?**

We know we need food to survive, but do plants need to eat?

Today we are going to do an experiment to see what plants need to grow. Learners will need to be in a group of between 4-6 people.

#### **Each group needs the following materials:**

- Six bean seedlings (with a least one leaf)
- Water
- Some liquid plant food
- Small cardboard box

#### **How to grow a bean seedling**

- Make your own pots using recycled yoghurt pots
- Fill each pot with good quality potting soil
- Place one bean in each pot
- Cover lightly with soil
- Water immediately
- Keep the soil moist, but not saturated
- After 2-5 days your bean should have sprouted

#### **Method**

- Label the bean seedlings

1	2	3	4	5	6
Sunlight	Dark	Food	No food	Water	No water

## Plant Food Experiments Activity

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- Provide the groups with the following instructions

### **Group 1 (Sunlight and dark)**

Place one bean seedling in the sun, cover the second seedling with the box so that it is in the dark. Water both beans regularly and feed both every 5 days.

### **Group 2 (Food, no food)**

Place both beans in the sunlight, water regularly, give the FOOD bean, liquid plant food, every 5 days

### **Group 3 (Water, no water)**

Place both beans in sunlight, only water the bean labelled water, feed both beans with liquid plant food every 5 days

- The learners will need to observe the beans' growth over two weeks, taking note of height, number of leaves, leaf colour.
- Each learner will need to guess which bean they think will grow the best and why.