

Planting the Seed

Materials

Vegetable seed packets (carrots, beans, radishes, pumpkins)
Vegetables that correspond to the seed packets
Chart paper and marker or chalk board and chalk
Paper plates
Magnifying glass

Experiment

1. Place the vegetables in the middle of a table for the children to examine. Involve them in discussing the names and characteristics (i.e. colour, texture: smooth, rough, wet, soft) of each vegetable. The children can categorize the vegetables according to size, colour, shape and texture.
2. Place the vegetable seed packets on the table with the vegetables. Have the children match the seed packets with the vegetables. Have the children predict what the seeds in each packet look like. The children can feel the seeds through the packets as they think about the seed's size and shape. As the children make their predictions, help them record their ideas on chart paper or the chalk board.
3. Open the packet of seeds and place on the paper plate taping the packet wrapper onto the plate by the seeds. The children can then examine the different seeds with a magnifying glass, comparing and contrasting the seed's colour, size, shape. Encourage the children to talk about the size of the seeds and the size of the vegetables produced. Talk about what weather is required for each vegetable to grow. Contact your BRAVE facilitator if you need assistance.
4. Decide as a group which seeds to plant. The seeds can be planted in soil inside of empty milk cartons. Together read on the back of the seed packets how to plant the seeds. Select a seed that will grow in the area where you live.

Courtesy of the BRAVE Project

Adapted from:

Thompson, S. (1996). It's A Carrot Seed! In K. Charner (Ed.), *The giant encyclopedia of circle time and group activities* (Pp. 170). Betsville: Gryphon House.