my little greenhouse

Make your own little greenhouse! Hang it in a window and watch the seeds grow.

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Activity Instructions

Setting

- Any event with table space and standing room
- Elementary (K-6) classroom with desk or table space for each student

Time

- 5-10 minutes for activity only
- 10-30 minutes if incorporating plant life cycle discussion

Materials-per participant

- My Little Greenhouse (cutout sheet, printed on cardstock)
- Ziploc bag, sandwich size
- 5 cotton balls
- 5 dried bean seeds (pinto and lima work best)
- Plant Life Cycle infographic, found <u>here</u>.
- Make available:
 - Scissors
 - Water source (to wet cotton balls)
 - Scotch tape

Procedure

- If possible, one week prior to the event, create an example greenhouse and begin to grow some seeds
- Hand out materials to each participant/student
- Provide simple instructions for cutting out the greenhouse
- Instruct participants/students to:
 - 1. Place 5 cotton balls in the bag
 - 2. Pour in a small amount of water (only enough for cotton balls to absorb, approx. 1/2 TBSP)
 - 3. Line up the cotton balls side-by-side at the bottom of the bag
 - 4. Place the seeds in the bag, one in front of each cotton ball
 - 5. Seal the bag
 - 6. Tape the bag to the back of the greenhouse
 - 7. Instruct participants/students to tape their greenhouse to a window and to observe and compare seed growth to the stages of growth images on their Plant Life Cycle infographic.

Reference and information for discussion

Knowledge Center Blog - Agriculture and the Plant Life Cycle Link: <u>https://www.farmcreditofvirginias.com/knowledge-center/blog/agriculture-and-plant-life-cycle</u>

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