STEM in the **PARK** ™

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Greenhouse Necklaces

What You Need

- Seeds (such as radish seeds)
- Small plastic bags (jewelry bags)
- Cotton balls
- Spray bottle of water
- Colored string or yarn

Investigate...

- What does a seed need to "come alive" or sprout?

- Give each child a small plastic (zip locking) bag, one cotton ball, and a few radish seeds.

- Moisten the cotton ball with the spray bottle of water. Next, place radish seeds onto the moistened cotton ball and place it into the baggie and seal it.

- Punch two holes into the top of the bag and thread yarn through to make a necklace. OR…you can tape the bags to a window instead of making a necklace.

- Have the students observe and the changes in the seeds over the next week. You do not need to re-open the bags to add water. You should find that at least one seed should germinate within a week.

Learn...

Plants can help students develop their ability to observe, describe, and classify. A study of plants is also a wonderful opportunity for inquiry-based teaching and learning. Seeds are living things. In this activity, students explore the main things that seeds need to grow. 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. The germination of a seed begins when the combination of water, oxygen and proper temperature is right.

Try At Home:

Make a few extra necklaces. Design your own investigation! You can investigate whether or not the seeds will germinate under different conditions such as in the refrigerator or inside a dark cabinet. For further experiments you could also compare the growth rates of different types of seeds or the effect of different conditions on their growth.

This activity is brought to you by Bowling Green Early Childhood Learning Center. A Montessori pre-school/kindergarten located at BGSU; Jordan Center

Bowling Green
Early Childhood Learning Center

Activity adapted from: UCCE-Contra Costa County "Eating Healthy from Seed to Table Project , 2012.