**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.

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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.

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