

At-Home Science

First Grade Investigations

SPRING is in the air. Everywhere around you, spring is starting to take hold. You can find **evidence** of spring all around where you live.

Investigation:

1. Be sure to ask an adult for permission to go outside and look around your home.
2. Look for signs of spring.

Here are some ideas of what to look for:



3. Use a Science Notebook (pieces of paper stapled together is perfect) to draw and write about what you see.
4. Now draw your favorite Spring activity. What do you like to do in the springtime? How is the springtime different from the other seasons? My favorite activity in the Spring is gardening!
5. Read about Seeds and Growth from ReadWorks:

<https://www.readworks.org/article/Plant-Seeds-and-Growth/ce3c1b23-9ac1-480c-806d-a53f1dad7582#!articleTab:content/contentSection:6ef0cfef-3d20-4e39-ae98-ffb223338f08/>

Plant Seeds and Growth



Many plants start out as small seeds. How does a seed grow?

First, a seed falls or is put into dirt. Water and the sun's light might help the seed to start growing.

Soon, the seed breaks open. Roots start to grow down into the dirt. Then a shoot pushes up through the dirt. The stem and leaves pop out next.

Soon, the little plant will be grown-up.

Fruits Have Seeds



Fruits grow in different ways. Apples grow on trees. Grapes grow on vines. Blueberries grow on bushes.

All fruits have something special. Do you know what that is? Seeds! Some fruits have one seed. Others have many seeds.

A peach has one seed. A coconut has one seed too. A pumpkin has many small seeds. A strawberry has many tiny seeds. They are on the outside of the fruit.

Seeds are important because they can grow into new plants.

What happens when seeds fall to the ground? Plants grow. Those plants will have stems, leaves, flowers, fruits—and more seeds.

- Write down two things you learned from reading these two articles.
- Do you have any questions about plants or seeds? Write them down and think about how you can find the answers.

Try this at home: grow some seeds at home.

- **Soak** a bean seed in water for a few hours.
- Then place on a wet paper towel. Put this in a plastic bag. Be sure to keep **damp**.
- How long does it take the seeds to **sprout**?
- Plant these seedlings in some soil and watch them grow!

Things to do each day:

- Draw your seedling as it grows. How does it change?
- Measure your seedling every other day. How much does it grow?
- Identify plant parts: roots, stem, leaves, flower, fruit, seeds.
- Go on a seed walk around your home. Collect some seeds. **Be sure to ask permission from an adult first!**
- See if any of these seeds will start to grow. Do you know how to get them to grow?
- Find seeds in the foods you eat. Will these grow too? Find out!

