

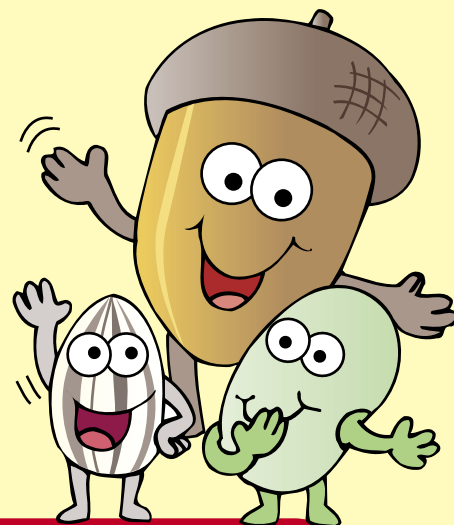
SEEDS

Objective: to identify the parts of a seed

Materials: pages 5, 7, and 9; class supply of lima beans; toothpicks; index cards

Teacher preparation:

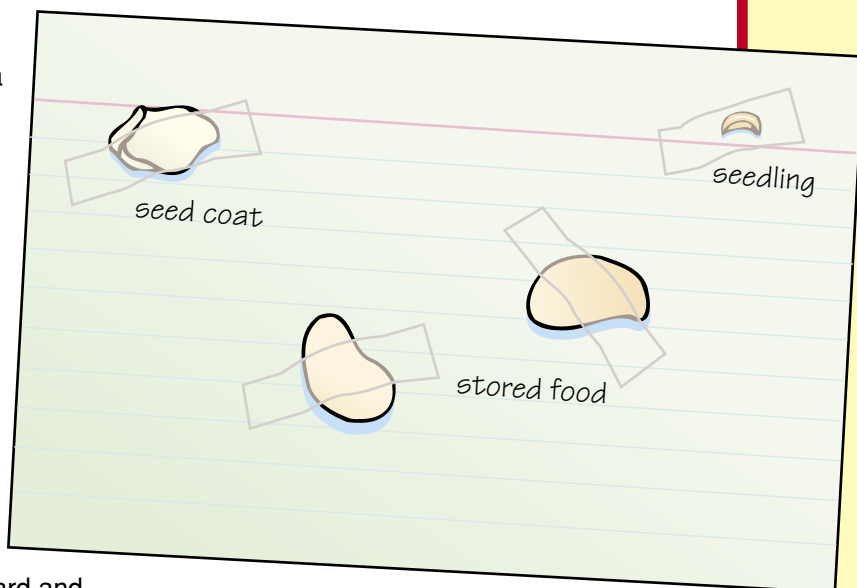
1. Follow the directions on page 3 to assemble the box.
2. Soak the beans in water overnight.
3. Laminate this page and the seed cards on pages 7 and 9 for durability. Cut apart the cards.
4. Place this page, the seed cards, the toothpicks, and the index cards inside the box.



Activity

Begin the activity by displaying the seed cards one at a time. Invite students to comment on each seed's shape, color, and size. Explain that although seeds don't look the same, they all

have the same function: to produce new plants. Point out that all seeds have three basic parts: a seed coat, a seedling, and stored food. Next, give each child one lima bean, a toothpick, and an index card. Show each child how to carefully run the toothpick around the edge of the bean so that the seed coat comes apart and slips off. Explain that the seed halves are the stored food that feeds the seedling. Then have him use his fingernails to pop the two halves of the seed apart. Point out the seedling, or tiny plant, that is revealed and have the child use his toothpick to gently remove the plant from the seed. Have him carefully tape the three parts of his seed on his index card and label each part as shown.

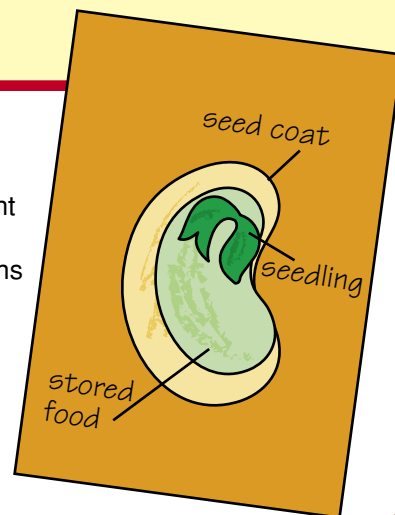


This Is Why

There are three basic parts of a seed. The *seed coat* protects the seedling that lives inside the seed. The *stored food* supplies the energy that the seedling needs to grow. The *seedling* is the part of the seed that becomes the plant.

Center Idea

Place a class supply of page 6, construction paper, crayons, scissors, and glue in a center. A student colors and cuts out the seed part patterns. Next, he glues the patterns on a sheet of construction paper, forming a seed diagram. Then he labels each seed part as shown.



Seed Part Patterns

Use with the center idea on page 5.

