



K-2 Life Science

Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program

Growing Corn

INTRODUCTION

Seeds begin to germinate when conditions are right to support the needs of a growing plant.

WHERE'S THE SCIENCE?

Students will learn that plants need certain resources for energy and growth (L2C1).

MATERIALS

- 1 Corn Cob with husk per group
- Corn seeds (2-3 per student)
- Potting soil
- 1 clear small plastic cup (per student)
- 1 plastic bowl for water
- 1 small Dixie cup for watering
- Science notebook
- Pitcher for water
- 1 aluminum cake pan for storing plants

PROCEDURES

Lesson One

1. Hold up a corn cob and ask the students if they know what it is? Remove some of the husk and show students a small section of the inside.
2. Give each group of students a corn cob and ask them to remove the husk and observe what's inside. Note: Placing a

- sheet of newspaper on the center of each table will help with clean up.
3. Pass out science notebooks and hands lenses to each group and instruct them to draw a sketch of the corn cob and a close up of what they observed inside.
 4. As students work, move from group to group checking their observations. You may want to suggest that they glue a corn kernel into their science notebooks.
 5. Call the students back to the carpet area with their science notebooks and discuss and chart what they observed.
 6. Read the big book Corn Farm to Table (see additional resources) discuss new learning and add to the class chart.
 7. Allow the students to add at least one fact they learned from the read aloud Corn Farm to Table to their science notebook.

Lesson Two

1. Call the students to the carpet area and demonstrate for the students how to plant their corn seeds.
 - a. Fill the plastic cup with potting soil.
 - b. Plant the seeds by pushing them into the soil.
 - c. Add water using a small Dixie cup filled with water to the water line. (Use a black sharpie pen to mark a black line ½ way up the side of the cup for the water line.)
 - d. Place in class container.
2. Send students back to their seats and call groups to the science table to plant their seeds.
3. Pass out science notebooks and have the students' record by drawing and writing their observations.
4. Continue recording observations every few days.

Additional Resources

http://www.iowacorn.org/cornuse/cornuse_8.html

Corn Is Maize by Alik

Corn From Farm to Table (Big Book) available at Newbridge

<http://www.newbridgeonline.com>

Nevada State Standards

L2A1 Students know animals and plants have offspring that are similar to their parents. E/S

L2C1 Students know plants and animals need certain resources for energy and growth. E/S

N2A1 Students know how to make observations and give descriptions using words, numbers and drawings. E/S

N2A2 Students know tools can be used safely to gather data and extend the senses. I/L

N2B2 Students know that, in science it is helpful to work in a team and share findings with others. E/L

Safety Reminder: N/A