



How Does Your Garden Grow? - Teacher Notes

Students may not understand the difference between soil and sand so a good way to show them is to try growing plants in both sand and soil. Take some sand from your sand pit and also source some healthy soil with lots of humus. Then, depending on how long you'd like this activity to take, plant seeds or seedlings in pots of both sand and soil and monitor how well the seeds germinate or the seedlings grow. You could have a roster for the students to be responsible for watering the plants and for measuring the plants.

A simple way to measure the plant growth is to look at the height of the plant. This can be done by getting students to place a ruler or piece of paper next to the plant, ensuring the bottom is touching the soil, and making a mark on the ruler or paper indicating the plant height. Depending on your choice of plant, there may be little growth noticed if this is done every day so perhaps every second or third day or even once a week would suffice. The expected outcome would be that the plant in the sand would grow less than the plant in the soil, if it survives at all.





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There is a good You Tube clip available for the song 'The Farmer Plants the Seeds' and the lyrics are included below. There are also some suggested actions. The tune is based on the old song 'The Farmer in the Dell' so it has simple repetitive lyrics.

Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRhGOdqWIIo>

Credits:

- Song- "The Farmer Plants The Seeds" (Kids Songs with Lyrics)
- Vocals & Arrangement: Sara Diamond and Christopher Pennington
- Music Band- The Kiboomers

"THE FARMER PLANTS THE SEEDS SONG LYRICS"

The farmer plants the seeds, [*Stoop and pretend to plant seeds.*]

The farmer plants the seeds

Hi, Ho, the dairy-o, the farmer plants the seeds.

The sun comes out to shine, [*Make a large circle with arms.*]

The sun comes out to shine

Hi- Ho the dairy-o, the sun comes out to shine

The rain begins to fall, [*Hands flutter up and down.*]

The rain begins to fall

Hi Ho the dairy-o, the rain begins to fall

The seeds begin to grow, [*Stand up slowly.*]

The seeds begin to grow

Hi Ho the dairy-o, the seeds begin to grow

The vegetables are here, [*Point to ground*]

The vegetables are here

Hi ho the dairy-o, the vegetables are here

The farmer digs them up, [*Digging action*]

The farmer digs them up

Hi ho the dairy-o, the farmer digs them up

Now, it's time to eat, [*Mime eating*]

Now it's time to eat

Hi Ho the dairy-o, now it's time to eat!

