

Diversity Lesson

Grade Level: 2

Season: Winter

Larger IGS Unit: Seeds

Essential Question:

How are seeds different? How are seeds the same? What do seeds look like?

Objective:

Students will explore 12 different seeds. They will be able to identify the shared needs of seeds, and the diversity they represent.

Materials:

- 12 different seeds
- egg cartons (one per student)
- potting soil
- watering cans
- seed guide (for teacher)
- Seeds of Diversity worksheet

Introduction:

12 trays of 12 different seeds are laid out for students to observe. Ask students to make *scientific* observations about the seeds without naming any of them.

- What do they look like?
- What do they feel like?
- Where (what part of the plant) do you think they come from?

Then ask students to define the word *diversity*. Connect it to *biodiversity*. Explain the importance of biodiversity in creating a healthy planet.

Activity:

To illustrate the word *diversity*, students are each given their own egg carton, which will act as their “diversity garden” for the winter.

Students choose 12 seeds they would like to plant in their egg carton, and write the corresponding letter of each seed’s tray on the top of the egg carton. This will help track the seeds as they begin to grow, so we know which seed is which.

Next, students fill their cartons with soil – just to the top of the hole.

They make one hole in each space and place their seed inside. Cover it up, then spray down with water.

Wrap up/ Assessment:

Students make a hypothesis about what the seeds will turn into. Using the “Seeds of Diversity” worksheet, they will guess what each of the seeds are/will turn into.

Extensions:

Transplanting lesson

Plant identification