



# Small Groups: Seed Experiment *(Medium Support)*

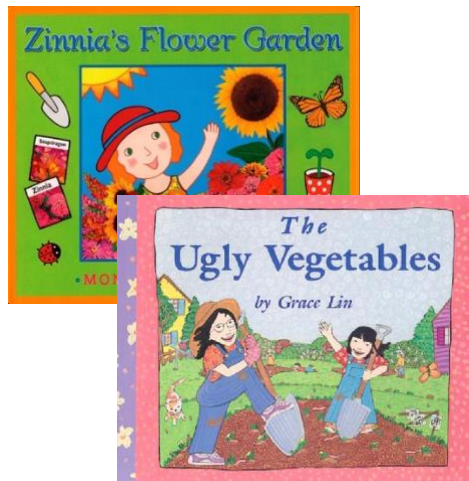
Standard Connection:  
SL.PK.1-3; S.PS.PK.4.1,  
S.LS.PK.4.2, 4.3;  
PK.MD.3; RL.PK.1

**Enduring Understanding(s):**

- Living things need food, water, and proper conditions to survive and thrive.

**Essential Question(s):**

- How do people impact the environment in positive or negative ways?

Materials	Vocabulary	Books
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Zinnia's Flower Garden</i></li><li><i>The Ugly Vegetables</i></li><li>Ziploc bags</li><li>paper towels</li><li>dry lima bean seeds</li><li>science journals or blank books</li><li>bowl</li><li>water</li><li>writing utensils</li><li>magnifying glasses</li></ul>	<p><b>experiment:</b> to test a new idea or activity</p> <p><b>garden:</b> an area where fruits, flowers, or vegetables are grown</p> <p><b>moist:</b> wet</p> <p><b>seed:</b> used to make a new plant</p> <p><b>sprout:</b> to begin to grow</p>	

## Procedure

### Preparation: *Set up materials.*

**Procedure (Week 1):** Show illustrations from *Zinnia's Flower Garden* and *The Ugly Vegetables*. Discuss how Zinnia, the girl, and her mother planted seeds in their gardens. Tell children they will conduct an experiment with lima bean seeds. Show materials for the experiment. Model/provide visuals for setting up the experiment. Support children to:

1. Place a paper towel in a bowl of water.
2. Squeeze out water.
3. Place a wet paper towel in front of the child.
4. Place lima bean seed in the center of the paper towel.

Show materials for documenting the experiment, i.e., blank book, science journal, template, etc. Give children magnifying glasses. Encourage children to write and draw observations. Provide sentence starters, i.e., My bean is (small) and white. Model/provide visuals for the remaining steps. Support children to:

1. Wrap bean seeds by folding them over a paper towel.
2. Write students' names on the Ziploc bag.
3. Place wrapped bean seeds in a Ziploc bag.
4. Seal bag.
5. Place bags in the window.

## Procedure

**Preparation:** *Set up materials.*

**Procedure (Week 2):** Review the Seed Experiment children began in Week 1. Tell children that they will unwrap their beans today and make observations using magnifying glasses. Support children in using specific vocabulary words, e.g., seed, sprout, roots, etc., to describe what they see. Support children in recording their observations with a picture of their bean in their science journals, paying close attention to detail - color, shape, size, etc. Support children in writing descriptive labels, words, or sentences.

Help children re-wrap their beans in the paper towels, making sure that paper towels are moistened before being put back inside plastic bags.

Encourage children to check their seeds daily and record their observations/predictions/questions. As seeds begin to sprout, discuss what seeds need to grow. Plant sprouted bean seed in soil. Encourage children to care for their planted seeds and continue recording their observations/predictions/questions.