

# Science Story Adventures



## Seeds

### Learning outcomes

- » Students know many plants depend on animals for pollination and seed dispersal, and animals depend on plants for food and shelter. (Grade 4 - Life Sciences)
- » Students know flowers and fruits are associated with reproduction in plants. (Grade 2 - Life Sciences)

From: *California's Science Content Standards*

### Books we read

*A Seed is Sleepy* by Dianna Hutts Aston  
*This is the Sunflower* by Lola M. Shaefer

### Activities we did

- » We talked about why seeds disperse and move away from the parent plant.
- » We looked at some different seeds (coconut, maple 'helicopter' and acorn) and talked about how they might travel.
- » We did the "Little Sprout" activity from *Project Seasons: Hands-on Activities for Discovering the Wonders of the World* by Deborah Parrella, which introduces the parts of a seed and how they help it grow into a plant.

### Today's craft: Grass Person



### You will need:

- » Old nylons
- » Googly eyes
- » Rubber bands
- » Potting soil
- » Grass seeds
- » Plastic cup
- » Glue
- » Scissors
- » Felt
- » Construction paper
- » Pipecleaners

### Directions:

1. Cut about 9 inches (23 cm) up from the toe of a pair of old nylons.
2. Place a handful of grass seeds inside and then top up with potting soil. Tie a knot in the end, leaving a little tail.
4. Pinch out a nose and tie it off with a rubber band. You can also use rubber bands to pinch out ears, if you want.
5. Put the head in a cup with the knot downwards. Fill the cup with water, making sure the tail of the nylon head is in the water
6. Decorate the face and body as you wish.
7. In a few days, your person will start sprouting green 'hair'.

Adapted from <http://www.kids-crafts-creations.com/grassguycraft.html>

# Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

## Books

*Flip, Float, Fly: Seeds on the Move* by JoAnn Early Macken.  
Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK929 .M23 2008  
Explores the movement of seeds, using some fantastically descriptive onomatopoeia.

*From Seed to Pumpkin* by Wendy Pfeffer. Nat. Ctr. Juv.  
SB347 .P44 2004  
Find out what pumpkins look like in the springtime.

*How Seeds Travel: Poppuns and Parachutes* by Jane Belk Moncure. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK929 .M66 1990  
Illustrates all the different ways seeds travel, and shows who helps them.

*The Reason for a Flower* by Ruth Heller. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK49 .H47 1983  
Explores the relationship between flowers, seeds, birds and bees.

*Sprouting Seed Science Projects* by Ann Benbow and Colin Mably. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QK661 .B43 2009  
Ten experiments allow you to get your hands dirty with seeds.

## DVDs

*Plant*. Nat. Ctr. Media QK901 .P53 2006  
Learn how seeds grow and propagate as DK Eyewitness explores the plants of the world

## Websites

The Junior Seed Site  
Learn how to collect, sow and grow seeds.  
<http://theseedsite.co.uk/junmain.html>

My First Garden  
All the FUNdamentals, so you can see what happens to seeds when they grow up.  
<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/firstgarden/index.cfm>

Seabean.com  
Curious about "drifter" seeds? Explore them with games, facts, pictures and even an ID guide.  
<http://www.seabean.com/>

Seeds  
The Kidipede entry for seeds begins with the plants of 360 million years ago!  
<http://www.historyforkids.org/scienceforkids/biology/plants/reproduction/seeds.htm>

Seeds of Change Garden  
Take a matching quiz on seeds and dispersal methods.  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/ce/eeek/cool/seedy.htm>

Sock Seeds  
A cool experiment to see what seeds are in your local biome.  
<http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/sci/sockseeds.html>