

1.MD Growing Bean Plants

Task

Materials

- 2 clear plastic cups for each pair of students
- 4 bean seeds for each pair
- soil
- unifix cubes
- a plant or math journal to record data in

Actions

a. Students in pairs grow bean plants from seed. Students should label the first cup with a A and the second cup with a B and write their names on the cups. Then they fill their plastic cups $\frac{2}{3}$ full with soil and place two bean seeds in each cup about one inch below the surface of the soil. Water the seeds and place the cups on a window ledge where they will receive sun light. The teacher should grow several cups to be "class plants" and as backups.

b. The beans will sprout within 7-10 days. When the bean seeds start to grow, choose two plants to be the class plants. Every few days, the class should water the plants. As a whole group, they measure the height of the class plants with unifix cubes. The first few times the teacher can do it, then the students can take turns measuring and recording the height in a table.

Date	Plant A	Plant B
March 1	2	1
March 4	4	3
March 8	8	5
March 11	11	7

The measurements should be recorded to the closest whole number.

c. Once students have done the measuring and recording as a whole group, the pairs of students can measure their own bean plants. They should measure the tallest plant in each cup if more than one bean sprouts. Students record each measurement in a table with the date in a math journal (or a plant journal for this project only if the class does not keep math journals).

d. After the students have measured their plants, they answer these two questions:

- Which plant is tallest today?
- How much taller is it?

e. On the last day of the activity, the students can compare the tallest plant in the room with the shortest plant.



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