

1.3 The Secret Lives of Plants

Story Extension for This Lesson:

This lesson is used after the little green plant screams "OUCH" and identifies itself as a flowering plant. Students will investigate the characteristics of plants.

Grade: 1

Strand: Needs and Characteristics of Living Things

Big Ideas:

- Plants and animals, including people, are living things. (Overall expectations 2 and 3)
- Living things have basic needs (air, water, food, and shelter) that are met from the environment. (Overall expectations 1, 2, and 3)

Overall Expectations:

1. assess the role of humans in maintaining a healthy environment
2. investigate needs and characteristics of plants and animals, including humans

3. demonstrate an understanding of the basic needs and characteristics of plants and animals, including humans

Specific Expectations:

- 1.2 describe changes or problems that could result from the loss of some kinds of living things that are part of everyday life of view into consideration
- 2.6 use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including investigation, explore, needs, space, and food, in oral and written communication
- 3.2 identify the physical characteristics of a variety of plants and animals

Inquiry Skills (from Smarter Science Framework):

Inferring, Discussing, Explaining

Instructions:

- The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle was used for this lesson as an example. You can select books from your school or public library about plants that are appropriate for your class.
- The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle video: <https://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=ls6wTeT2cKA>
- Additional video, Parts of a Plant - Dr. Binocs Show: <https://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=p3St51F4kE8>

NOTE: This is a fun video that quickly summarizes the parts of a plant.

Part 1:

As a large group, take a piece of chart paper and create a KWL Chart. Encourage students to share what they know, what they wonder, and what they have learned about seeds prior to reading *The Tiny Seed*. Students can create their own KWL Chart by using the black-line master provided for this lesson. *Refer to handout - KWL Chart.*

Reading:

Read **The Tiny Seed** by Eric Carle aloud. A video link is provided for students who require assistive technologies. After reading, use the guiding questions to generate a class discussion. Record student answers to track thinking.

Guiding Questions

Comprehension:

- Is the wind important in helping the tiny seed? Explain.
- Where does the wind blow the seeds? Did the wind help all the seeds find a good place to grow? Explain.
- How fast is the tiny seed moving compared to the other seeds? What caused the difference in speed?
- Why do seeds fall to the ground?
- What are some places seeds will have trouble growing? Why?
- How can animals help seeds travel?

Inference:

- How tall is the flower?
- What does the wind do to the flower?
- What happened when the seed pod opened? What will happen to the seed?
- After completing the class discussion, return back to the KWL Chart to identify misconceptions and confirm correct beliefs.

Part 2:

Students will complete worksheets on *The Tiny Seed*. Refer to *Handouts- The Tiny Seed Events Chart and Create-a-Plant*.

Connections:

This lesson can be used in conjunction with the Language curriculum. To complete this activity, students are required to identify the main idea of the story, retell the story, and make inferences from the text.

Subject Area:

English

Connects to:

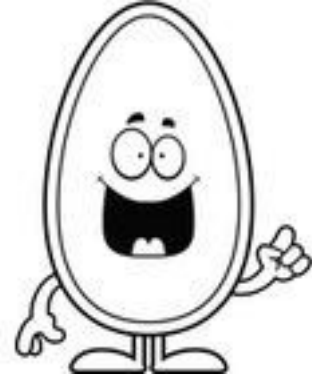
Grade 3

Handouts/Assessments:

- Tiny Seed KWL Chart
- The Tiny Seed Events Chart
- Create A Plant 1

The Tiny Seed KWL Chart

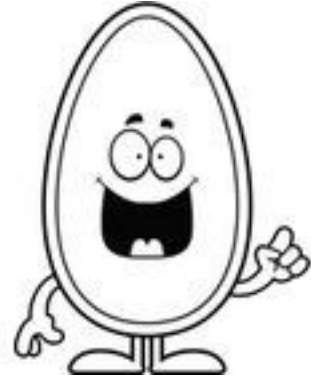
Complete your KWL chart and tell me what you know about seeds?



What do you know about seeds?	What do you wonder about seeds?	What have you learned about seeds?

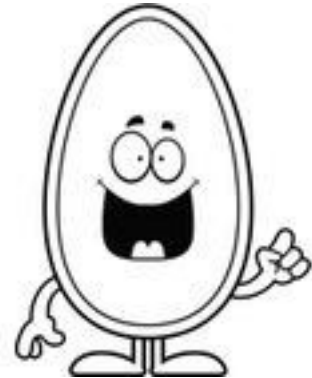
The Tiny Seed

List or draw the events from the time the tiny seed appears in the book to the time the tiny seed becomes a flower.



Create-A-Plant

Create, design, and colour your own plant. Be sure to label the parts of your plant using words from your Word Box.



Word Box

Roots
Leaf
Stem
Seed
Flower