



Garden in a Glove



Purpose: Students will learn the process of germination through a hands-on activity. Garden in a Glove allows students to track the germination process, learn what a seed needs to germinate, and what the plant needs to thrive.

Background: Seeds remain dormant or inactive until conditions are right for germination. All seeds need water, oxygen, and proper temperature to germinate. Some seeds require proper light as well. Some germinate better in full light while others require darkness to germinate. When a seed is exposed to the proper conditions, water and oxygen are taken in through the seed coat. The embryo's cells start to enlarge. Then the seed coat breaks open and a root or radicle emerges first, followed by the shoot or plumule that contains the leaves and stem. After germination, the plant needs sunlight, moisture, air (carbon dioxide) and nutrients to survive.

Materials: one clear plastic glove per student, 5 cotton balls per student, various seeds, water spray bottle, tape

Activity:

1. Place one moist cotton ball in each finger of the clear plastic glove.
2. Place 2-3 seeds on each cotton ball.
3. Label the seeds and students name on the glove.
4. Tape the glove to a window or well-lit surface.
5. Water with spray bottle as needed.
6. Record observations or keep a plant diary.
7. Transplant after 1-2 weeks into growing medium.

