Quick Guide

Time to Complete

Preparation Time: Up to 10 minutes

Preparation Time: Up to 30 minutes

Key Question

What are the parts of a plant?

Key Take Away

The parts of a plant are the seed, roots, stems, and leaves.

Key Task

Use the presentation to encourage inquiry as to the appearance and function of plant parts, and to Observe & Interpret the similarities and differences of the same parts between plants.

PART 1: Seeds

Start Presentation

What do you notice?

Mung Bean

Sunflower

Carrot

LIKE US, THEY START SMALL, AS SEEDS.
Observe & Interpret

- What do you notice about these seeds?
- Do they look the same or different?
- What colors, shapes, and sizes are they?
- How do you think seeds get from one place to another?
- What do you think is inside the seed?

Continue Presentation

PAUSE ON SLIDE #8

Things to Point Out

- Seeds find homes to grow in many different ways.
- Sometimes it depends on the environment, sometimes it depends on the qualities of the seed. For instance, a small seed may be blown by the wind to a certain location.
- A seed that is grows in a wet area and has the ability to float may travel by water, such as via a stream.
- And finally, people transport seeds from one place to another to grow certain kinds of plants!

Reinforce

These are some ways seeds travel. But what is a seed itself, and what does it look like inside?
• A seed is actually a baby plant protected by an outer shell called a coat.

• Inside of the coat, there is the tiny baby plant [embryo], plus a food supply to help the baby plant grow [endosperm].

• When the baby plant has had enough nourishment, it may start to come out of the seed coat and develop certain parts of the plant.
The first parts that grow from the seed are the roots.

Things to Point Out

• What do you think the stems do for the plant?
• Why might they be important?
• Do all these roots look the same?

PART 3: Stems

Observe & Interpret

• What do you think the roots do for the plant?
• Why might they be important?
• Do all these roots look the same?

Advance Presentation

PAUSE ON SLIDE #17

Things to Point Out

Once the roots start to grow down, the plant sends up a stem.

Encourage Careful Looking

• What do you think the stem does for the plant?
• Why might it be important?
• Do all these stems look the same?
PART 4: Leaves

The plant then grows leaves from the stem.

- What do you notice about these leaves?
- Do they look the same or different?
- What colors, shapes, and sizes are they?
- Why might leaves be important for the plant?

As you have seen, each plant is different and has special qualities, just like each person!

This is called DIVERSITY.