

# Seed Collage Art

## Suggested Curriculum links (Grade 3)

### Life Science: Plant Growth and Changes

- Place seeds in groups according to one or more attributes (202-2) including size, shape, colour and appearance.

### Art: Texture, Nature and Classification

- To help children develop awareness of the textures, colours and shapes of the objects in the environment.
- To help children develop skills in classification, collage, and assemblage.

### Materials

- Various seeds
- Colouring sheets
- Glue
- Cotton swabs
- Pencils
- Shallow cardboard boxes

## Overview

*Seeds come in various shapes, sizes, and colours. In this activity, students will classify seeds and use them to colour a picture.*

## Objectives

- To classify seeds according to size, shape, colour appearance, and texture.
- To make a collage picture using various seeds.

## Background

Seeds are the beginning of the lifecycle for plants. In flowering plants (angiosperms), seeds grow inside an ovary which eventually develops into fruit. Non-flowering plants such as conifers may develop their seeds in cones (gymnosperms). Each seed contains an embryo, a food source and a protective seed coating.

Seeds are extremely diverse in size, shape, colour and appearance. Seeds from flowering plants are just as diverse as the fruits that hold them. The size of a seed is dependant on the amount of food they store. Sometimes seeds have extra parts to help them disperse. It is important for seeds to travel away from the parent plants so that they do not compete with it for water, nutrients and sunlight.

## Procedure

1. *Collect different kinds of seeds.*  
Collect seed heads, cones and seeds from the forest, home gardens, and bulk food stores and bring them to the classroom.
2. *Explore the different kinds of seeds as a class.*  
Have the class group seeds by shape, size, colour, appearance, and texture. Identify which plants produce these seeds. Discuss why they are different



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shapes and sizes. Compare how seeds that disperse through wind and seeds that disperse through fruit fall when dropped.

#### 3. *Colour a colouring sheet using seeds.*

Have students choose a colouring sheet and up to five different kinds of seeds. Using glue, paste the colouring sheet into a shallow cardboard box. Have the students colour their sheet using groups of seeds. Use the cotton swabs to put a dab of glue on the back of seeds and press them onto the paper. Let the glue dry.

#### 4. *Make a seed legend.*

Have students identify the seeds they used. Ask students to paste a sample of each seed onto the paper and write its name next to it.

### Extensions

- Compare the characteristics of two seeds. Draw a Venn diagram on the board and have the students list characteristics that the seeds do and do not share.
- Make a bar or pie graph comparing different characteristics of seeds.

### Resources

#### Websites

*MUN Botanical Gardens*

<http://www.mun.ca/botgarden/index.php>

Find information about local plants.

#### Books

*A seed is sleepy.* Aston, Diana Hutts. Chronicle Books. 2007.

*Planting a rainbow.* Ehlert, Lois. Sandpiper. 1992.

