

**Experiment
of the Month:**

**One Potato,
Two Potato**

You will need:

small organic potatoes that have started to sprout; black 30-gallon trash bag; scissors; 7 gallons of potting soil; ruler; water; an assortment of colorful vegetables

- Before your museum program, follow the instructions below and give your potatoes some time to grow.
- Set out different types of vegetables for the children to study.
- Discuss their colors, shapes and names.
- Gather around the trash bag to see what's growing inside.
- Send every child home with a sprouted potato and this instruction sheet.



How to Grow Potatoes in a Trash Bag

1. Cut drain holes in the bottom of the bag. Fill with dirt 6" deep. Roll the sides of the bag down and put it in the sun.
2. Place 3 potatoes in a triangle on top of the soil, eyes up. Add 2" dirt and water them, draining any excess.
3. When plants are 6" tall, cover with soil so that only the top few leaves poke through. Continue adding soil as they grow, until the bag is completely full. Keep watering your plants.
4. When the leaves yellow and die, cut the bag open and collect your potatoes!

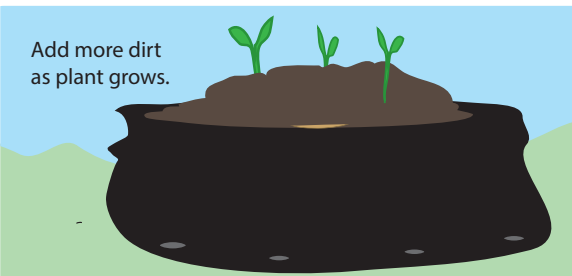
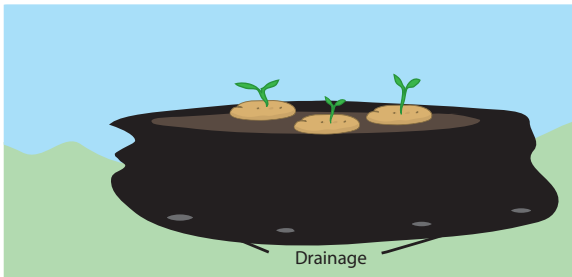
Ask Questions:

Which vegetables come from the ground?
Which vegetables are leaves?
How many vegetables are green, yellow, etc.?
Which vegetables begin with the letter B, P, etc.?
What does a potato need to be able to grow?

Read a Story:



Potato Joe by Keith Baker.
Harcourt Children's Press, 2008.



Play A Game:

Sitting in a circle, children toss a potato around while music is playing. When the leader stops the music, call out "hot potato" and whoever is holding the potato gets to take it home to plant.

It will take about 10 weeks for your potatoes to grow. A light frost won't hurt them, but freezing cold will, so choose your location and timing with that in mind.