

Brontosaurus Learning

Making science fun!

An Experiment about

Living Things

Investigating Seeds



What you will need:

- A collection of fruit with seeds, eg apples, peas, peaches, strawberries, tomatoes, oranges etc. You can also investigate some seeds from the garden including pine nuts, grass seeds etc.
- Tweezers

What you will do:

- 1 Your teacher will give you a few different fruits to investigate the seeds in. Use the tweezers to get out a seed.
- 2 Write down some details about the seeds. How big are they? What color are they? Where do you find them on the fruit? Can you eat them?
- 3 Can you come up with a way to classify the different plants based on the information you have about their seeds?

What is going on?

Plants produce seeds to make new plants. Different plants use different methods of giving their seeds the best chance of survival. Some seeds are protected in very hard shells. Other seeds are incased in a fruit that will provide the seed with nutrients while it is starting to grow. Some seeds are designed to be carried by the wind or eaten by animals to help spread them into new areas. Some are even designed to stick to animals—those ones can be really annoying!

Have you ever really looked
at the seeds in your fruit?



A seed contains everything it needs to grow a whole new plant if it lands on the ground and gets enough water and sunlight. They are pretty amazing considering how small they can be!

Challenges:

- Investigate some other seeds in your school, park or home garden.
- Find out some other ways plants can make new plants.

TEACHING NOTES:

Brontosaurus Learning Experiment:
Living Things LT10

Topic: Living Things

Key Concepts:

- ♦ Investigating seeds

Resources:

- Experiment Description Living things LT10 – one copy per student
- A variety of seed examples—for fruits that have the seeds inside them you might have to cut them in half so the students can get to them with tweezers.

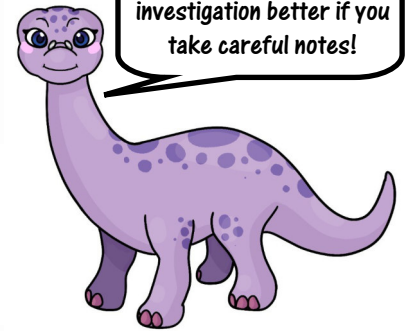
Lesson Notes:

In this lesson your students should work in small groups and be allowed to investigate the different seeds and discuss what they have in common and what is different between them. Encourage them to try different ways to classify the plants based on the seed information they have gathered.

At the end of the lesson have the groups compare their lists and if time permits make one big list for the whole class of all the different fruits and their seeds.

Image from Freepik

Investigation Record



Experiment Title:

Scientist (that's you!):

Materials: What will I need?

Investigation—what am I going to do in this experiment?

Diagrams are a great idea!

Hypothesis: What I think will happen:

Observation: What I SAW happen:

Diagrams are a great idea!

From my investigation I learnt:

Great work scientist!