

## Seed Sensations

### Seed Museum

Create your own seed museum and investigate how different seeds germinate.

#### Materials:

Transparent plastic cup

Paper towels

Seeds (lima beans, radish, zucchini, sunflower, chives, zinnia, radish, lettuce, marigold)

Marker

#### Setting Up Your Museum:

1. Line your plastic cup with 2 sheets of paper towel, first folded in half and then in thirds.
2. Scrunch another sheet of paper towel and place it gently in the centre of the cup.
3. Place the seeds in groups between the paper towel and the side of the plastic cup.
4. Label the groups of seeds by writing their names on the outside of the cup with a permanent marker.
5. Pour water into the centre of the cup to wet the scrunched up paper towel. The water will wick through the surrounding paper towels and keep the seeds moist.
6. Check your museum each day to check for germination. Remember to add water as needed to keep the paper towels damp.



## Seed Dissection

Open up a bean and find a baby plant!

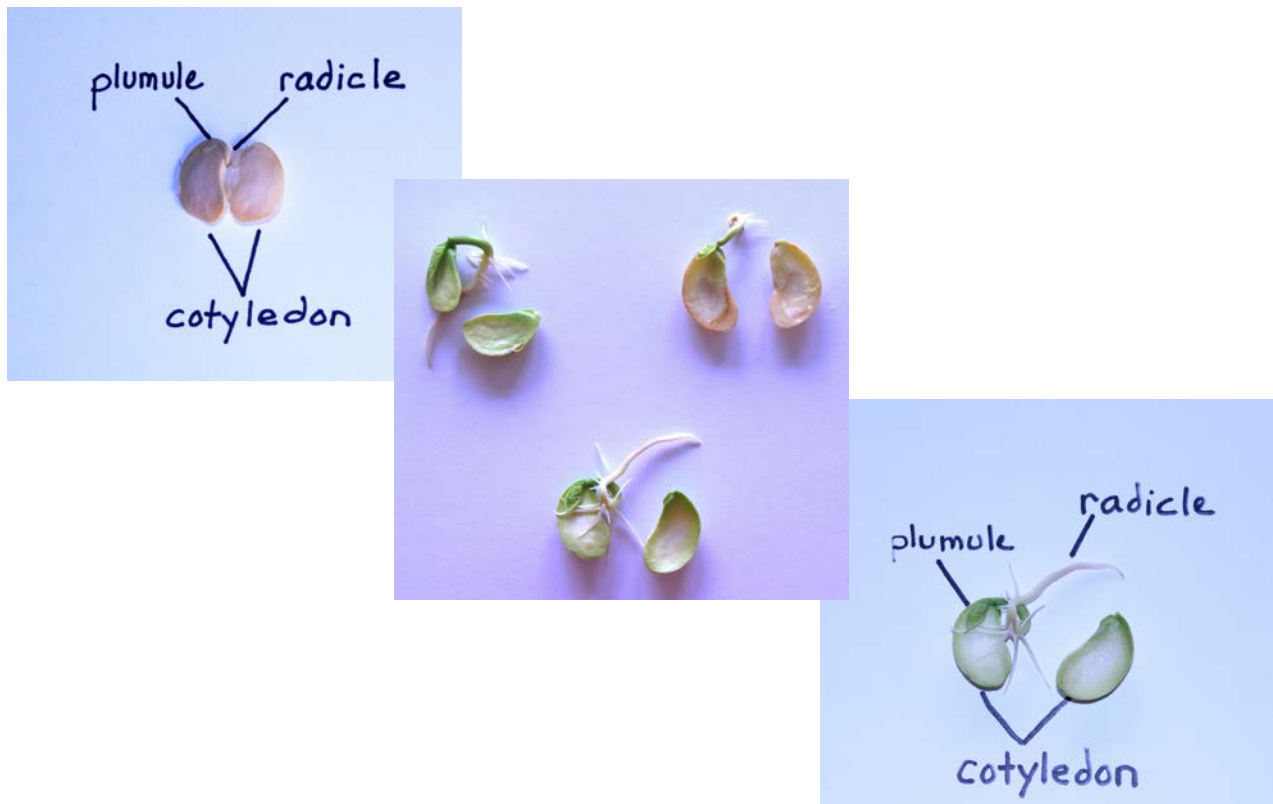
### Materials:

Lima beans  
Paper towels  
A large Ziploc bag

### Procedure:

1. Soak lima beans overnight by placing them between 2 wet paper towels and sealing the package in a Ziploc bag. It's good to soak lots of extras!
2. After soaking, remove the bean seeds and carefully peel back the seed coat on the convex side of the bean. You can remove bean coat completely to make the next step easier for little fingers, if needed.
3. Carefully pry the bean halves apart on the convex side and gently separate them.
4. Look for the radicle (baby root), plumule (baby leaf) and cotyledon (food source).

Extension: after your dissection is complete, place the separated bean seed back between the damp paper towels and into the Ziploc bag. Leave for 2-3 days and re-examine the seed for plant growth.



## Seed Art

Seeds come in all sorts of sizes, colours and shapes. Use them to have fun counting, sorting, creating patterns and exploring bi-lateral symmetry. Photocopy our butterfly template and provide your students with white glue and a variety of seeds and beans to create their own mathematical work of art!

### Safety Note:

There is some evidence that those with a peanut or tree nut allergy may be at increased risk for an allergic reaction to beans.

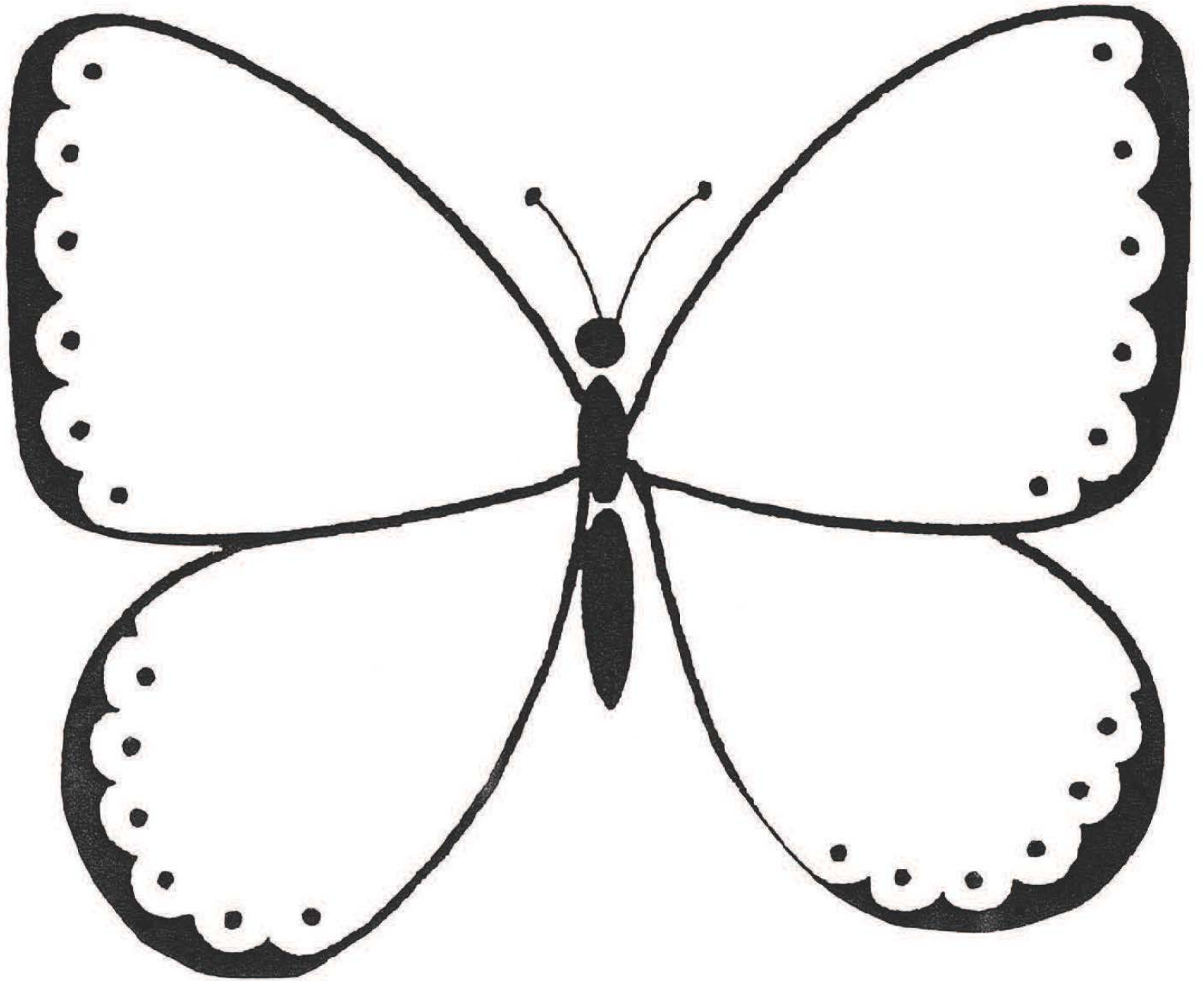
### Materials:

- A variety of seeds in all shapes, sizes and colours such as rice, beans, corn kernels, peas, and sunflower seeds
- White glue that dries clear
- Popsicle stick to spread glue
- Cardstock
- Pencil
- Small spoon

### Procedure:

1. Cut cardstock to the required shape. Younger children may enjoy creating alphabet masterpieces; older children may wish to sketch their own design. We have included a butterfly template for your use.
2. Cover the picture with glue and place seeds as desired. For more complicated patterns, work on one section at a time. A spoon may be used to transfer smaller seeds.
3. Continue placing seeds until the entire image is covered.
4. Allow the glue to dry completely before using your creation.





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