



ROCHESTER  
BRIDGE TRUST

## Germination of seeds

Spring is a great time to get out in the garden. The plants are waking up after the winter, there is plenty of new, green growth and insects are starting to buzz around the emerging flowers and blossom. Have a go at some of our activities and learn about what plants need to grow and how seeds germinate.



### **Something to watch!**

Have a look at these videos to find out all about what plants need to grow.

For R/KS1 children:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0004qsd/maddies-do-you-know-series-3-2-plant-and-compost>

Suitable for KS2/3 children:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RXVhiUnTA8>

Have a go at planting seeds or some small seedlings in your garden or in pots.

### **What do seeds need to germinate?**

Carry out your own experiment using cress seeds to find out what seeds need to germinate.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkFPyue5X3Q>

Set up clean, dry egg shells with a small ball of cotton wool in the bottom of each. Count out 10 cress seeds into each shell and place them on the cotton wool (a piece of folded tissue would also work!). To find out what conditions speed up/slow down germination try putting one in the dark, one in the sunlight, one with water and one without. You could experiment with giving different amounts of water, depending on how many shells you can set up! If you are giving them water you need to do it every day. Check on them each day to see which ones have grown!



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### **Grow your own cress heads!**

Cress grows quickly and is easy to grow. If you save egg shells when you've eaten your eggs & wash and dry them, they can be used to make these fun cress heads! Have fun drawing faces on the shells, so the cress looks like their hair!

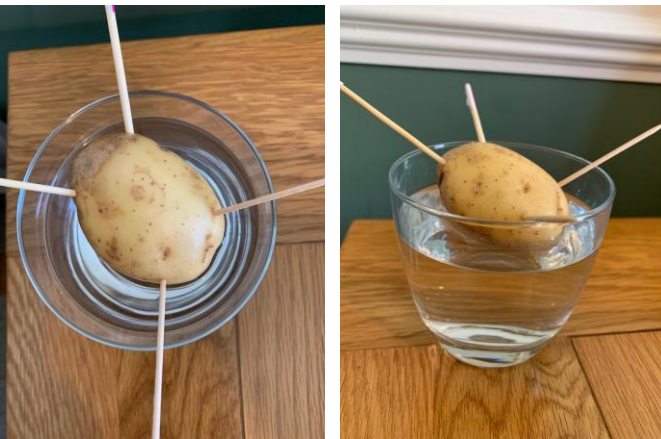
<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/crackin-cress-heads>



### **Start some potatoes for your garden!**

Did you know you can grow potatoes from.....well, a potato?! Get an adult to help you put 4 cocktail sticks around the top half of your potato. Use the cocktail sticks to balance the potato so it is hanging into the water in a plastic pot or cup. Put the potato in the dark to see what happens to it! Once it has sprouted you can plant it in the ground!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8dbjCLFTJc4>



### **Have a go at these!**

Can you label the parts of a plant? Do you know how they get the things they need to grow? Have a go at these activities to build a flower, label the parts of a plant & learn about how they make their own food (resources suited to: YrR/KS1, KS2 and KS3 respectively):

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/ca-sc-50-putting-together-a-flower-activity>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2546377-parts-of-a-plant-activity-sheet>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t2-s-156-photosynthesis-worksheet>



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