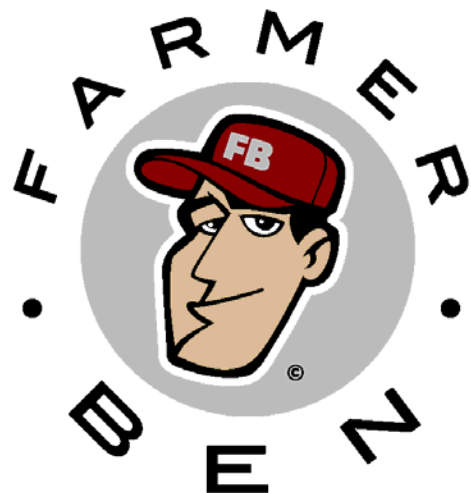


Seed Buddy

Seeing a seed germinate into a plant is a wonder for children. This favorite activity is a great way to share with children the wide range of vegetables, herbs, and flowers grown in Virginia.



You will need:

Jewelry size re-sealable bag (found in craft stores)
Cotton ball
Hole Punch
Spray bottle filled with water
Seeds
Yarn

How to:

1. Punch a hole in the top of a jewelry bag above the zip closure line.
2. Hold cotton ball to spray nozzle and moisten cotton ball. Generally takes a full spray to fully moisten cotton.
3. Lay 1 or 2 seeds on the cotton ball.
4. Put the cotton ball with seeds into the jewelry bag.
5. Add a puff of air to the bag and seal.
6. Thread a piece of yarn through the hole at the top of the bag to form a necklace.
7. Children can wear their necklace close to their heart. The seed now has moisture, air, a growing medium, and warmth which are essential for seed germination.
8. Seeds generally begin to sprout in 1 to 2 weeks depending on seed variety. Beans and squash are a good size seed for young children to work with while smaller seeds such as beets and radish sprout within a few days.

Farmer Ben Educational Activities developed by Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom, a program of the Virginia Farm Bureau.



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