

Seeds and Bulbs



twinkl

What do you know about seeds and bulbs?



The first stage in the life cycle of most plants is a seed.

Seeds come in all shapes and sizes. Every plant has a different seed.

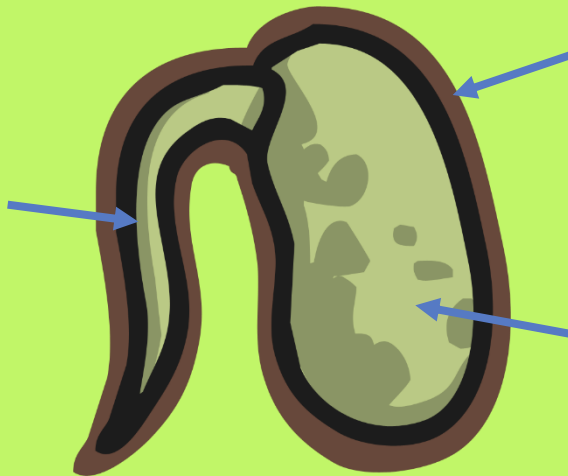
Seeds

Every single seed has the beginnings of a new plant inside it, along with a little store of food to help it grow.

When the conditions are right, the seed soaks up water and swells, and the tiny new plant bursts out of its shell. This is called **germination**.

Embryo:

The tiny root and shoot which will grow into the adult plant.



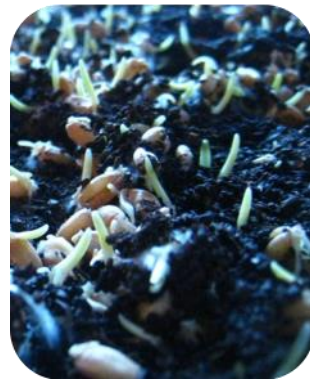
Seed Coat:

A tough outer covering.

Food Store:

A Store of food for the young plant to use until it has grown enough to make its own food.

Here are some different plants in the process of germinating.



What can you see?

Why is this happening?

Bulbs

Some plants grow first from a seed, and then develop a bulb that helps them to grow back year after year.

A bulb lets the plant rest underground over the winter when it is too cold, then grow back later in the year when conditions are right.

Flower Bud:

Future flower stored inside the bulb for protection.

Tunic:

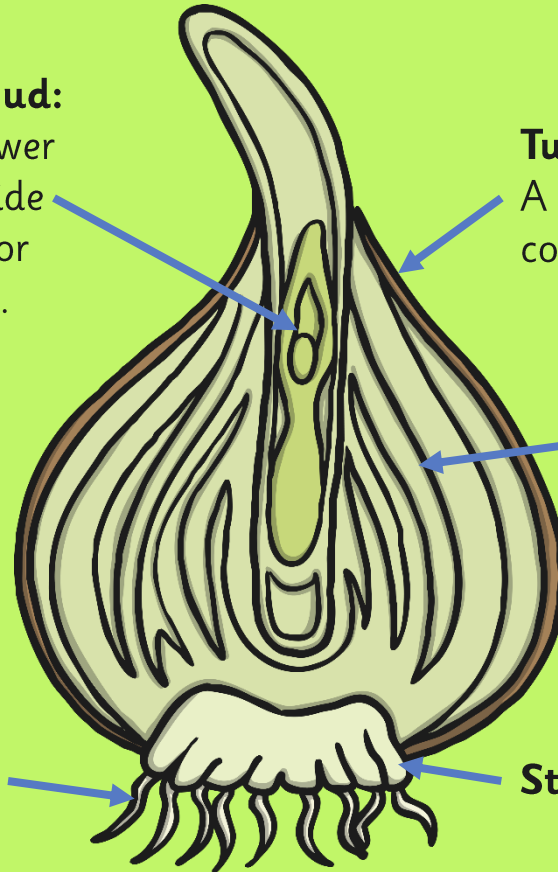
A papery outer covering.

Scales:

Thick leaves that store the food.

Roots

Stem



Seeds and Bulbs

Here are some common plants that grow from bulbs.

Daffodils, tulips, snowdrops, lilies and allium.



Task 1: Seed or Bulb? Quiz

On the next few pages are some foods that we eat.

Can you guess if the food is a seed or a bulb?



Remember – before you check to see if you are correct, have a go at answering each question using what you know already!

Peas



Seed

Bulb



Correct!

A pea is a seed. Well done!



Onion



Seed

Bulb



Correct!

An onion is a bulb. Well done!



Coconut



Seed

Bulb



Correct!

A coconut is a seed. Well done!



Sweetcorn



Seed

Bulb



Correct!

A corn kernel is a seed. Well done!



Garlic



Seed

Bulb



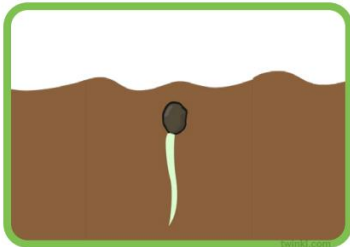
Correct!

Garlic is a bulb. Well done!



Task 2: Growth sequencing

Use the pictures and sentences below to describe, in your own words, the order in which a plant grows. You might want to add in your own key facts and words to show your understanding.



Using a watering can,
water the seeds.

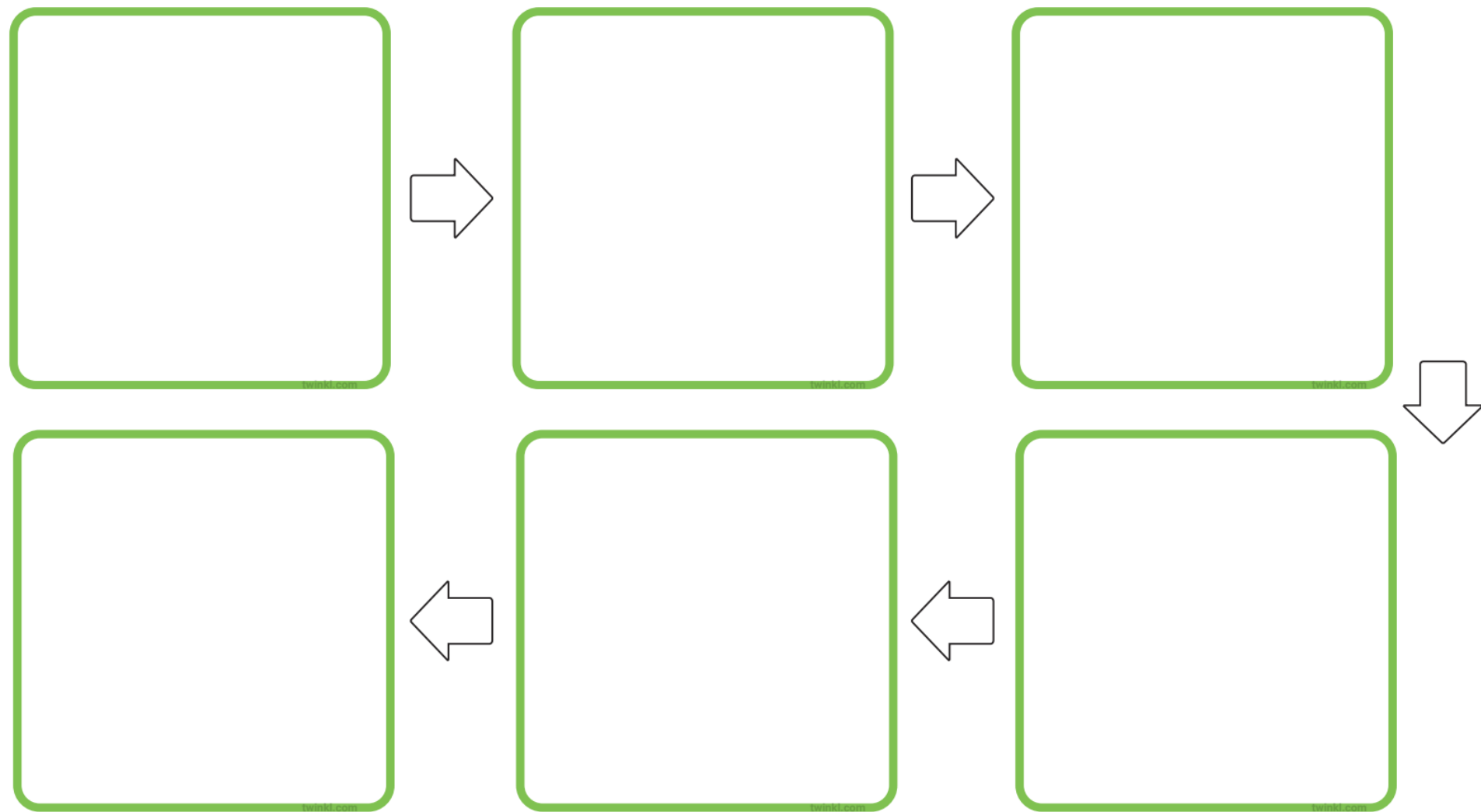
The plant grows and
begins to flower.

Fruit then grows
on the plant

The seeds begin to
sprout and grow.

Plant the seeds
into the soil.

Fill the plant pot
with soil.



Remember – you do not need a printer to complete this task. Using a piece of paper from home you can draw your own pictures and write your own sentences to show the order in which a plant grows.

Task 3: Planting

We would like you to plant some seeds (you can buy seeds for a low cost from your local supermarket – cress and sunflower seeds are good examples to use) and set up a **comparative test**.

In your comparative test, you are going to plant the same seeds, and **compare** how they grow under different conditions.

This will help you to learn what plants need to grow well.

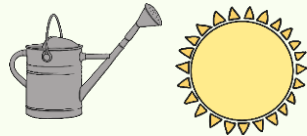
Note to parents: if you are unable to carry out the above activity with your child due to not having the resources, then please use the internet (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zcn9j6f> – this is a good link, but there are other videos on YouTube that are suitable) or a book to explain what plants need to grow well).



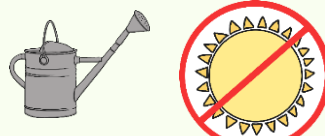
Task 3: Plant growth comparative test

You are going to compare the growth of your seeds.

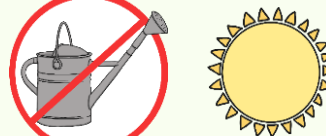
One seed will be given water and sunlight.



One seed will be given water but **no sunlight**.



One seed will be given sunlight and **no water**.



One seed will be given **no sunlight** and **no water**.



What do you think will happen to each of the seeds?



How to plant your seeds:

You will need:

- 4 seeds
- 4 plant pots
- Soil
- Water (not for all seeds - check the growing condition)



1

Fill your pot half full of soil.



2

Plant the seed in the soil.



3

Cover the seed with more soil.



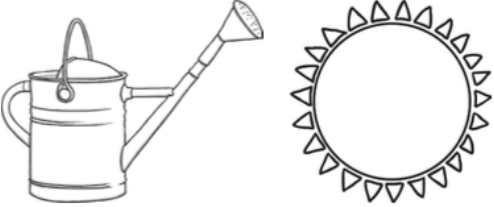
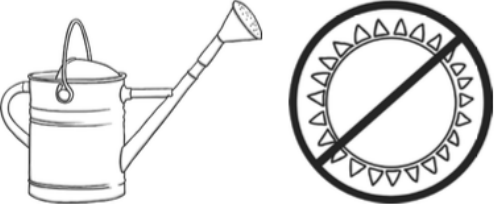

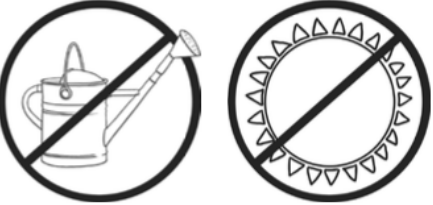
4

Find a suitable place to put the pot (this will depend on the growing condition of each seed – see the previous page).



Task 3: Plant growth predictions

Look at the condition the seed is planted in. Describe how it will grow.

Growing Conditions How the seed will be planted.	Prediction How the plant will grow.
The seed will be given water and sunlight. 	
The seed will be given water and no sunlight. 	
The seed will be given sunlight and no water. 	
The seed will not be given water and sunlight. 	

Remember – you do not need a printer to complete this task. You can draw your own table and record your predictions using a piece of paper from home.

Task 3: Plant growth predictions

Which seed did you predict would grow the best?

Remember to care for your seeds every day. For example:

*if the growing condition requires water then you must remember to give water every day

*if the growing condition requires sunlight then you must make sure the seed is in an ideal sun spot.

