



ARRIBA ABAJO LEARNING GUIDE



THE SEED

Through this song and activities, children learn the parts of a plant and what it needs to grow. Through highly-engaging hands-on activities, you will provide children rich material for them to write text that is meaningful to them, thus developing their reading and writing skills. This is also a great song to learn academic vocabulary and practice language structures, especially needed for English language learners.

CONCEPTS

- initial sounds
- articles
- science
- sequencing
- using similes to compare



SEE THE
VIDEO



STREAM OR
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THE SONG

SCIENCE NOTEBOOK: WHAT'S IN A FRUIT?

Before singing the song "The Seed," show children different fruits and ask them to name them one by one. If they are not familiar with some of the fruits, use this as an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary.

Cut each fruit in half to expose seeds. Review or introduce key vocabulary: skin, flesh, seeds, stem.

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On a big piece of chart paper, draw a big apple cut in half and label each part using the following sentence frame:

The _____ has _____ .

The apple has seeds.

The apple has skin.

The apple has flesh.

The apple has a stem.



STRATEGY

Young children and English language learners of any age need many meaningful opportunities to practice English sentence structures. Using sentence frames is a simple way to help children internalize language structures they can use to communicate. It helps them increase language knowledge and academic vocabulary.

You can re-use sentence frames to talk and write about many things. For example, the sentence frame above can be used to talk about animal parts, people, vehicles, and much more.

Tell the children that you are going to make a Science Notebook. Give each child a different fruit and ask him or her to draw their fruit and label the parts. When the child is finished, you can give him or her a different fruit to draw and label. You can spread this activity across several days, observing, drawing and labeling a different fruit each day.

Collect your child's drawings and create a book out of them. Create a cover for the book and label it **Science Notebook**. Your child may want to design the cover with an illustration. If you are working with a classroom of children, you can compile every child's drawing to create a class-wide book.

Give children opportunities to share their drawings and practice saying the sentence frame with other children and family members.

ADAPT

Younger children can draw the fruit and say the different parts, as you label the parts for the child.

Depending on your child's language abilities, this could be a great opportunity to incorporate academic vocabulary words into your conversations, using words like:

Observe / observation

Examine

Diagram

Illustration

Biology / biologist

WATCH ME GROW

Introduce the song "The Seed" and sing it several times to help familiarize children with the song.

Sing the song again and walk outdoors around a playground or park to show children different trees. Explain that many fruits grow on trees and give examples.

Then, give each child a seed, a cup and dirt and model how to fill the cup with dirt and plant the seed.

Explain that a seed needs soil, water and sun to grow. Find a sunny place close to a window to place your cup. Wait several days and observe the plants as they grow.

As you are checking back on your seeds, make a flow map to show the stages of an apple tree.

First stage: sprout

Second stage: young plant

Third stage: adult plant

Fourth stage: tree

If you are working with a large group, divide the children into groups of four or five students and give them four big construction papers. Support children to be creative to represent each stage making 3-Dimensional models. Example of possible materials: coffee to represent soil, yarn for the stem, and colored papers to represent the fruit.

Ask children to label all the parts of the plant or tree. Include words such as

the roots, the stem, the seed, a leaf, a branch, the trunk



STRATEGY

Make sure to include the articles "the" and "a" in the labels to support children in their language development. You may want to discuss with your child when to use each articles.

You can say, "There are many leaves on the tree. We are just labeling one of them, so we will write 'a leaf.' There is only one trunk on the tree, so we will label it 'the trunk.' There is one system of roots and we are labeling the whole system of roots. Let's label it 'the roots.'"

ADAPT

Give younger children labels with the parts already printed and encourage them to say the initial sound to figure out the word.

Example:

/sss/ seed

/rrr/ root

/lll/ leaf

Then, they can use glue to paste the paper labels in the correct place on the flow map.

On the bottom of each section of the flow map encourage children to describe each stage of growth using a complete sentence.

First we planted a seed.

Then, a sprout came out.

After, the sprout grew into a young plant.

We watered the young plant and it turned into an adult plant.

At the end the plant turns into a tree.

Help your child recall the order that each stage happened, and encourage them to use sequence words to organize their ideas, including

first, then, later, after, at the end, finally

LET'S COMPARE

After singing the song "The Seed," encourage children to compare fruits and vegetables to other living things or objects by completing sentence frames. Here are two sentence frames you can use:

A _____ will grow tall like _____.

A _____ will grow round like _____.

Examples

A tree will grow high like a giraffe.

A carrot will grow long like a ruler.

A watermelon will grow round like a steering wheel.

An orange will grow round like a baseball.

You can also make up your own sentence frames to keep extending the activity.

ADAPT

For younger children you can print out the sentence frame with the blanks in the sentences, letting them write only the words needed to fill in the blanks. Older children can write the whole sentence themselves.

Very young children can also compare by drawing a picture instead of writing the words.

LIBROS QUE LES PUEDEN GUSTAR

The Tiny Seed/ La semillita

Eric Carle

When several seeds are scattered by an autumn wind, the smallest outlasts the others to grow into a giant flower in spring.

Growing Vegetable Soup/ A sembrar sopa de verduras

Lois Ehlert

An introduction to gardening for the very young.

The Carrot Seed/La semilla de zanahoria

Ruth Krauss

Illustrations by Crockett Johnson

A classic tale of a boy who patiently perseveres when everyone tells him his seed will not grow.

And Then It's Spring/ Y de pronto es primavera

Julie Fogliano

Illustrations by Erin E. Stead

A tender story of an imaginative boy anxiously waiting for his seeds to sprout as winter turns to spring.

Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems/Jitomates risueños y otros poemas de primavera

Francisco X. Alarcon and Maya Christina Gonzalez

Celebration of spring through poems about plants, weather, food, and dreams.

The Lorax/El Lorax

Dr. Seuss

A cautionary tale of the destruction of a forest, with the Spanish translation remarkably preserving Dr. Seuss' characteristically playful rhythm and rhyme.

CREDITS

This Learning Guide was developed in collaboration with master teacher Heidimarie Freund-West and singer-songwriter and teaching artist 123 Andrés. To see all of the Learning Guides and for more information about the guides, their authors and how to use them, please visit www.123andres.com/learning. Special thanks to the following families for their help in developing the guides: Louis and Carlos' family, the Montoya Cabrera family, Maria Kammaraad and her family, Brooke Belville and her family, the Kopacko family, the Carollo family, the Eschelbach family, and the Diaz Evans family. Art and layout by Alcides Urrutia.