



Jasper's Beanstalk: Plants Need Water

Suggested Grade Level: 2nd grade, Special Needs.

Concept: Identifying the basic needs of most plants (i.e., soil, air, water, light).

Anticipatory Set

Holding a bean in my hand I will have the children think of some ideas that we might be able to do with the bean. Then I will show the children the front cover of the book and ask them to use the picture on the cover to predict what we might do with the bean.

Measurable Objective

Students will identify the 4 basic needs for a plant to grow by drawing a picture and labeling the items (sun, soil, air, water).

Instructional Point:

Prior knowledge: Children will need to know a few characteristics of plants.

Procedure:

- Present the bean that will be planted and let the children talk about some things we can do with the bean.
- I will present the book and read it.
- I will ask children to reassess their ideas about what we might be doing with the bean today.
- I will ask the children to help me list some things that *Jasper* did with his bean.
- Then we will discuss the things we will need to do with their bean.
- I will explain that we will be planting beans together and then watching the growth of their beans.
- I will provide the materials for the beans and each child will get to plant his/her own bean.
- I will then have them draw a picture of the plant that they think might grow out of their bean.
- I will remind them that they need to put in some of the things that we talked about plants needing.
- Then we will review what plants need (sun, water, nutrients from the soil, air) and why plants need these things. (Review)

**Materials Needed:**

Soil, foam cups, beans, water, newspaper (to keep desks clean)

Modeling:

I will model how to plant a bean. I will show the children how to water a bean and explain that a bean must have the appropriate amount of water to grow into a healthy plant.

Check for Understanding:

I will ask for questions before the children start the project.

Guided Practice:

I will walk around and help each child plant his/her seed. I will answer any questions the children have and review with them about plants as we plant the seeds.

Independent Practice:

The children will draw in a journal about their experience. They will show how they planted their seed, what they think will grow from the seed, and what they learned about plants.

Closure:

When the children are finished, I will ask if anyone wants to share about his/her plant. Some may want to predict how high they think their plant may grow or what their plant may look like when fully grown. Others can even show their drawings.

Evaluation:

To assess that the children have met the objectives I will check for these items:

- Journal illustration for correct identification of the 4 basic needs of a plant.
- Conversation about plants when I am helping the children plant their seeds to check for understanding of the basic needs of the plants.

Lesson Plan compiled by Sarah Hodges, an Earth Team Volunteer and Early Childhood Education student at Missouri State University, Springfield, MO.

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