



BEANIE BABY



GROW A SOYBEAN IN A PLASTIC BAG

Soybeans are sometimes called the “magic bean” because they can be used to make many things. Soy products are found in hundreds of items we buy at the grocery store. Soy milk, soy flour, textured vegetable protein, and lecithin are all ingredients that come from soybeans and are found in frozen foods, baked items, cake and cookie mixes, candies, cereals, and many other items.

1. Show stalks of soybeans (or soybean plants) to the class and pass around a bag of ripe soybeans. Explain that soybeans are a “renewable resource,” which means they are never “all used up” because more can always be grown.
2. Explain that soybeans are a valuable source of many vitamins and minerals that our bodies need every day. These include calcium, phosphorus, iron, vitamin A, thiamin and riboflavin. People all over the world need these vitamins and minerals, so we ship (export) soybeans grown in our country to countries that can’t grow enough soybeans to provide for their people.

Beanie Baby Activity

Materials Included:

- jewelry size resealable bag
- crystal soil
- water containers
- measuring spoons
- soybeans
- yarn

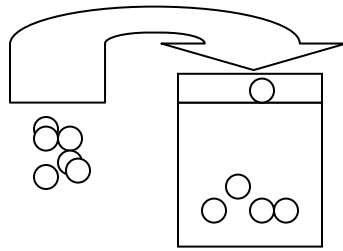
Materials to be Provided by Teacher:

- hole punch (to punch hole in bag)
- water
- scissors (to cut yarn)

Follow instructions on page 2. Remember to check your Beanie Baby each day for germination and record the growth.

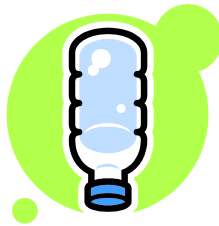
Thanks to Steve Connelly, Maryland Agriculture in the Classroom

STEP 1:



- Punch hole through top of bag (above seal).
- Put **1/2 teaspoon** crystal soil in bag.

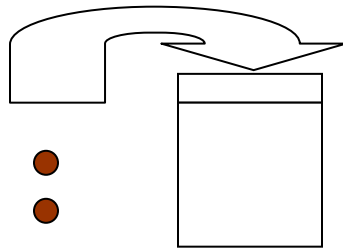
STEP 2:



Squeeze water in bag for 2.5 seconds. (= about 1 tablespoon)

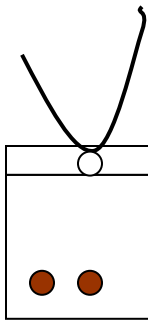
★ Counting “1 Mississippi, 2 Mississippi, 3” = 2 1/2 seconds! ★

STEP 3:



- Add 2 soybeans to bag.
- Push into crystals.

STEP 4:



- Seal bag.
- Place yarn through hole on top of bag.

NOTE: Wear your beanie baby around your neck and **under** your shirt to keep it in a warm, dark place.