



WATCH THE GROWTH OF A PLANT

Grow a Plant from Seed

1. Let each child plant seeds in a cup, water the seeds, set the cup by a window, and watch them grow.
2. Read: The Parable of the Seed Growing Secretly (Mark 4:26-28).
 - a. “the seed should sprout and grow, he himself knows not how”
3. Ask: What makes a seed grow? What is our part? What is the Lord’s part?
4. Say: We may plant the seeds and take care of the plants as they grow, but it is really the Lord who makes all things grow!
5. Say: As you watch the seeds growing up into a healthy plant, think about the wonderful things that are happening that our eyes can see. The plant reaches up and leans toward the light, doesn’t it? And if the plant is thirsty, the leaves droop a little, telling us the plant needs water.
6. Say: Now think about the wonderful things that are happening that our eyes can’t see. We don’t see the roots growing down into the ground to hold the plant in the soil and help the plant get nutrients and water. We don’t see the way the plants take carbon dioxide from the air and give us oxygen instead.

Extension Idea: Focus on Roots

1. Try growing a large seed such as an avocado pit in a clear glass of water (held up by toothpicks). Or put a plant cutting in a clear glass of water. Watch how the roots develop. After several weeks, you should be able to see a root system that is as long as the plant is tall and as wide-spreading.
2. Take a walk outside and notice how many plants there are, ranging from a single blade of grass to the tallest tree. Now think about the amazing, extensive root systems that lie beneath the ground! We can’t see what is happening, but the Lord can, just as He can see into our minds and hearts.

Extension Idea: Plant a Garden

1. Plant a garden and keep a record of the changes from first planting to the harvest.
2. What part did we play in the growth of the plants? What was the Lord’s part?