

**ACTIVITY:** *Living Seed Necklace*

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE:** To expose youth (and adults!) to the process of seed germination

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

1. To learn the things needed for seed germination
2. To make a living seed necklace to observe germination

**TIME:** 3-6 minutes

**MATERIALS:**

Seed

Cotton balls

Micro-centrifuge tubes (or small plastic craft or jewelry bags {find in bead or craft section at Wal-mart or other crafty type store} or clear food service gloves – use the fingers to hold cotton balls),

squirt bottles or spray bottles or water bottles with single small hole punched in cover, water

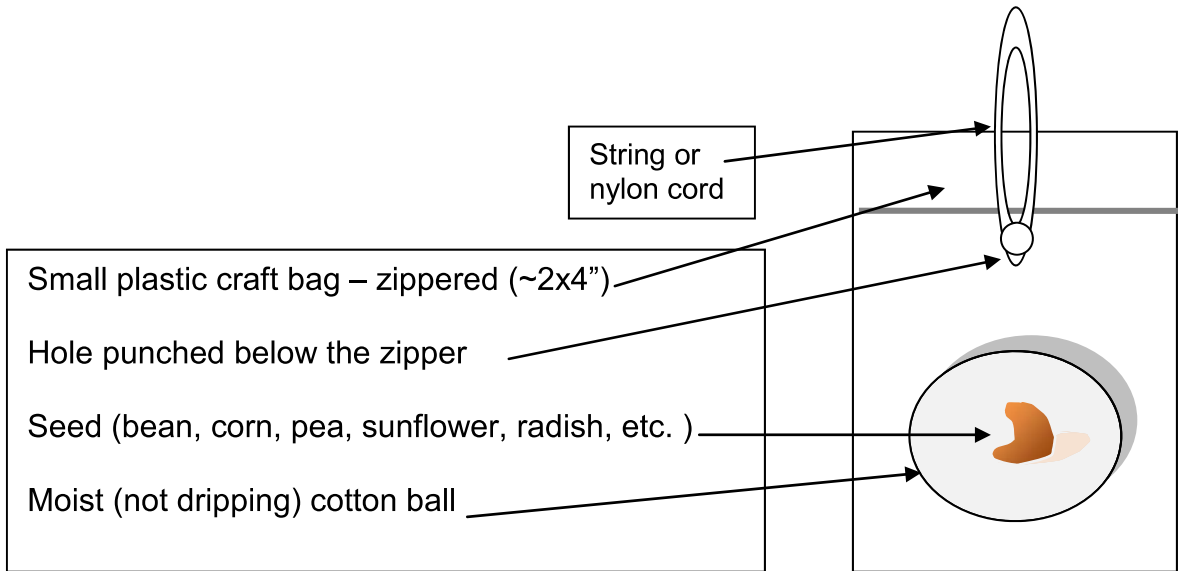
colored string or nylon cord

**BACKGROUND:**

Seeds are a living thing. They are the ‘baby’ plant that will grow into a new plant. Discuss the main things that seeds need to grow. Ask those participating what they think seeds need to grow. Water, warmth, sun, soil, oxygen. The participants (the youth) are providing the things the seed needs to grow with your living necklace. Warmth from your body helps it get started. Watch your seed germinate in the next few days. What do you see?

**DIRECTIONS TO HELPER:**

Place the cotton ball into the tube (or bag) and make it slightly wet. If using small plastic bag, moisten cotton ball before inserting it. It should be damp all the way through but not dripping (the seed will drown, just like people). Next place the seed on top of the cotton ball. If using a plastic bag, slide cotton ball with seed on stop into the bag. Lay the cord or string (cut to a length appropriate for a youth, aprx. 2-3 feet) across the lid of the tube and snap it shut, or through the hole of a small plastic bag and zip it shut. Tie tightly in a knot. Wear around neck like a necklace. Your body will provide the warmth to help the baby plant grow!



**RESOURCES/REFERENCES:**

Ag in the Classroom – “soy baby” or “living necklace”  
The Indianapolis Children’s Museum