

recommended for grades K – 5 (ages 5-10)  
with adult assistance

# D.I.Y. STEM: SPROUT HOUSE

activity adapted from <http://thestemlaboratory.com/sprout-house/>  
View a video tutorial at: <https://is.gd/sprouhouse>

## SUPPLIES

- 4 plain sponges
- scissors
- toothpicks
- hot glue gun (and an adult to help)
- plate
- small paper cups or bowls
- quick-sprouting seeds (wheat berries, chia, or alfalfa)
- water
- paintbrush
- spray bottle



## DIRECTIONS

### Step 1: Prepare Your Materials

- Choose one sponge to be the foundation. Lay it flat on the plate.
- Choose one sponge to be a roof. Cut it in half.
- Choose one sponge to be a wall. Cut it in half.
- Make additional walls by cutting the last sponge in half, then cutting one half in half again.

### Step 2: Build Your House

- Use the toothpicks to attach the walls and roof to the foundation.
- Have an adult use the glue gun to secure the roof.

### Step 3: Plant Your Sprouts

- Pour the seeds into small cups, and add a little water to each cup.
- Use the paintbrush to cover the sponges with seeds.
- Pour water onto the plate, and mist the roof and walls thoroughly with the spray bottle.
- Water your sprout house 1-2 times daily for the next week, and observe it closely.

## Questions for Discovery

- What happens to the seeds?
- Where does the water go?
- Do all the seeds grow at the same rate? Why or why not?

## Further Learning

- [Science Fundamentals: Seeds and Plants](#). Mazarella Media, 2010 (DVD; gr 2-6)
- Aston, Diana Hutts. [A Seed is Sleepy](#). Chronicle Books, 2010. (Book; gr K – 2)
- Butterfield, Moira. [Plants](#). Cavendish Square, 2016. (Book; gr 5-8)
- Clay, Kathryn. [Planting Seeds](#). Capstone Press, 2016. (Book; preschool – gr 3)
- Meyerhoff, Jenny. [Green Thumbs Up!](#) Aladdin Paperbacks, 2015. (Book; gr 2-5)
- Nelson, Kadir. [If You Plant a Seed](#). Balzar and Bray, 2015. (Book; preschool – gr 3)



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