

April: Watch It Grow

Materials

Ruler, pencil, paper, clipboard, poster board, envelope, construction paper

Preparation

Draw the x and y axis of the bar graph on the poster board. Cut rectangles that represent 1 cm out of construction paper and put into the envelope. Affix the envelope to the poster board.

Activity - 20-30 minutes/week

Intro - 5 minutes

Explain that the class is going to be tracking the growth of the seedlings out in the garden. Every week, they are going to go outside to measure the growth of the seedlings and graphing it inside on the poster board.

In the Garden - 10 minutes

Once a week for 6-8 weeks, head out to the garden to measure seedlings. Divide the students up into groups to measure all the different plants (a few students will measure the peas, others will measure the spinach, etc). Have students work in pairs to measure and record how tall the seedlings are. Caution the students to be VERY CAREFUL not to disturb the growing plants as they measure! Have students take turns measuring and recording so that each student gets a chance to read the rulers.

Graph It - 10 minutes

Back in the classroom, write down all the recorded numbers on the board and (either as a class or individually) come up with an average for each plant. Affix the correct number of rectangles to the graph to represent the total height of the plant for that week.

Watch your plants grow!

