

## **Project FOCUS Best Lesson**

**Grade Level:** Second Grade

**Title of Lesson:** Life Cycle of a Flower

**Unit Title:** Life Science

**Performance Standard Covered:**

S2L1: Students will investigate the life cycles of different living organisms.

c. Investigate the life cycle of a plant by growing a plant from a seed and by recording changes over a period of time.

**Essential Question:**

What are some plant life cycles? How does a flower grow?

**Objective:**

Students will understand the basic life cycle of plants by piecing together the different parts that grow into a flower.

**Key Words and Terms:**

Seed  
Roots  
Stem  
Leaves  
Flower

**Learning Activity**

**Abstract:**

Each student will construct his/her own flower, using construction paper, scissors, and glue, while also writing out the steps of a plant's life cycle.

**Materials Needed:**

Each student should have:

1. 1 Glue stick
2. 1 Black marker or crayon
3. 1 Piece of standard letter paper
4. Construction paper cutouts – one seed, three or four roots, one stem, two leaves, and six or seven petals

\*Note – The colors and sizes of construction paper cutouts is subjective. For this lesson, cutouts were created so that the entire flower, once glued together, would fit on one piece of standard letter paper.

**Safety Concerns:** Be careful that students are using the glue sticks appropriately, and not on each other.

**Procedure:**

1. The night before you are to complete this lesson, make sure all of your cutouts are ready and that you have enough for each student in your class.
2. With each student at his/her desk, and pass out each of their cutouts (seeds, roots, stems, leaves, and petals) and paper.
3. Before the students glue anything onto their paper, have them guess what each cutout represents. Be sure to explain that one side of their paper will be for their flower, while the other side will be for them to write out the life cycle of a plant.
4. Have each student draw his/her own flowerpot and soil at the bottom of the paper with their marker or crayon. They should then glue their seed cutouts in the middle of the flowerpot.
5. Next, students will glue the roots coming out from the seed. Take a minute to explain what the roots' purpose is.
6. Then, have students glue the stem attached to the seed, growing up and out of the flowerpot. Take another minute to describe why plants grow upwards (to receive as much sunlight as possible from the sun). Students will then glue on the leaves towards the middle of the stem.

7. The petals are to be glued at the top of the stem, and in any pattern you have chosen.
8. Lastly, have each student flip their paper over and write the following. They may work individually or in pairs.
  - “First, plants start as seeds.
  - Next, roots grow into the ground.
  - Then, a stem and leaves grow up to the sky.
  - Last, the flower blooms.”
9. You may also choose to explain to your students how flowers contain seeds, and that when spread and planted, will grow into a new plant.

**Notes and Tips:**

Depending on the nature of your class, you may place students in pairs for this lesson and have them share glue sticks and markers/crayons. Also, create your own flower along with the students so that they have an example to follow for each step.

**References:** N/A