

Seed Paper Flowers

This activity links to Historic Stewart Farm’s “Stories Shoots and Sprouts” K-1 School Program. The activity enables students to learn the important parts (stem, leaves petal, pistil) of a flower through creating a craft and explaining how a flower will grow through a follow up planting activity.

Curriculum Connections

This activity ties to several Big Ideas from the Kindergarten – Grade 2 curriculum:

1. We shape the local environment, and the local environment shapes who we are and how we live
2. Plants and animals have observable features
3. Daily and seasonal changes affect all living things
4. All living things have a life cycle
5. Water is essential to all living things, and it cycles through the environment

Background

Like gardeners today, the Stewart family grew varieties of plants that they shared with neighbours and friends. Putting seeds into paper is a creative way to share seeds by turning them into a gift that will grow!

Today seed paper is used in trendy ways – like business cards, wedding invitations, and other mediums.

This is a beautiful craft that your students can do at home to teach them about giving and growing seeds like they did in the past. Historic Stewart Farm likes to use hollyhock seeds for this craft, but any flower seed will do.

If your student does not have seeds, the flower on its own would make a lovely gift – perhaps to a parent, grandparent or friend.



Materials and equipment needed to make a flower:

- 1 colourful pony bead (optional – instead, you can loop the end of the pipe cleaner)
- 1 chenille stem (pipe cleaners)
- 8 - 5"x5" squares of tissue paper (petals)
- 1 - 4"x2" square of green paper (leaf)
- Jar lid or glass to make a circle pattern
- Cardboard circle pattern
- Pencil
- Scissors (fancy edge optional)
- Paper punch

Additional materials for plantable option:

- ¼ cup flour
- 2 tbsp warm water
- Small bowl and spoon for mixing
- Toothpick or similar for applying paste
- 8 additional 5"x5" squares of tissue paper
- 10 Flower seeds, preferably small and flat (like hollyhocks or poppies)

Instructions

Have your students do the craft in the Seed Paper Activity Guide. Parents can teach them along the way about the different parts of a flower and what a plant needs to grow. Parents can help plant the seed paper and encourage the students to discover how the plant grows.

The following parts of a flower are represented in the craft:

- Stem and roots – pipe cleaner
- Leaves – construction paper
- Petals – tissue paper squares
- Pistil and Stamen – bead, or looped end of the pipe cleaner

These are the things a flowering plant needs to grow and flourish:

- Bees
- Water
- Sunlight
- Soil

Have the students send you a photograph of their finished flower, with a list of the parts of the flower. Students should also list the things a flower (plant) needs to grow. Our [Let's Get Growing Activity](#) can also provide an alternate home for seeds for those students without a yard (make your own flowerpot out of newspaper).

Wrap – Up Share the flowers with your class in an online bouquet! Create a mosaic photo grid document that shows all the images your students sent along.