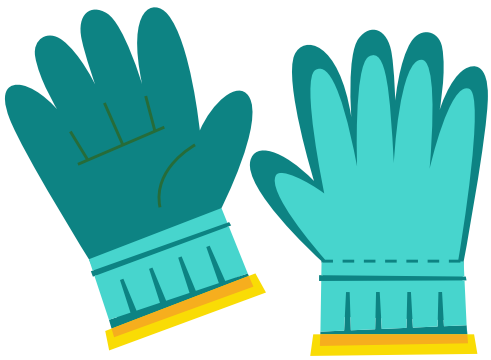
CLOVERBUDDIES

A 4-H EXPLORATION ACTIVITY SERIES FOR CLOVERBUD MEMBERS

APRIL 2025

PROJECT EXPLORATION:

PLANT & SOIL SCIENCES



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GROWING MIRACLES

Did you know that you can regrow certain vegetables from their original scraps? This is a handy trick to know as vegetables are essential to a healthy diet. Look at some of these “magic veggies” below and pick your favorite to regrow at home!

carrots

Cut the top off a carrot and place in small bowl, cut side down, and fill with an inch of water. Place dish in sun and change water every day. Transplant to soil when the tops sprout new shoots.

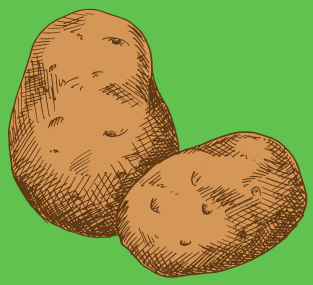
peppers

Carefully open a pepper and scrape out the seeds, removing any flesh of the pepper. Plant seeds about 1/2” deep in soil and place in a sunny area.

onions

Place the bottom of an onion in soil with endcap down. Once roots appear, remove the old onion bottom and allow roots to continue growing.

potatoes



Cut a potato in half, making sure each half has at least 1-2 eyes. Let pieces sit overnight at room temperature until they are dry to the touch. Plant a foot apart about 8” deep in soil.

celery

Place celery base, stalks facing upright, in a small bowl with water. Place bowl in sunny area and change water every day. After 5-7 days, transplant in soil up to the leaf tips.

POLLINATOR FRIENDS

A pollinator is anything that helps carry pollen from the male part of the flower (stamen) to the female part of the same or another flower (stigma). The movement of pollen must occur for the the plant to become fertilized and produce fruits, seeds, and young plants. Color the picture below of butterflies, which are great pollinators! Can you name any other pollinators?

DOWN & DIRTY

You can't grow plants until you get down and dirty….in the soil, that is. Soil is made up of so many different things like microbes, organisms and sediment. But did you know that you can see the different layers of soil under the right conditions? Complete this experiment below and see how many layers make up your soil!

MATERIALS:

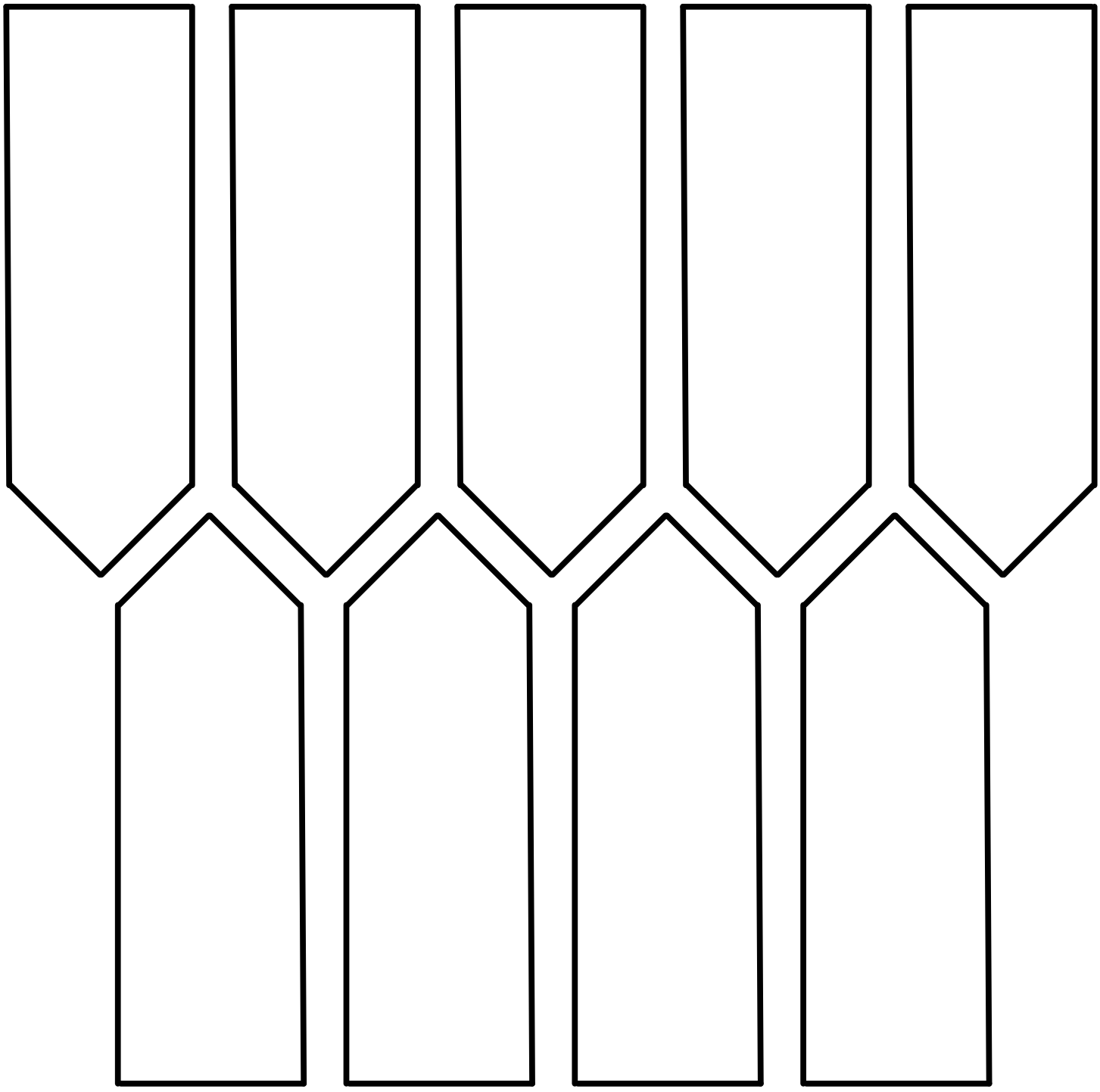
- Clear glass or plastic jar with a lid
- Soil
- Trowel, spoon, or digging tool
- Water

DIRECTIONS:

1. Find some soil (preferably not garden soil of all 1 type) and fill your jar about halfway up with it. Remove any large clumps of grass or weeds, but some debris is acceptable.
2. Fill up the remaining half of your jar almost to the top with water.
3. Place a lid on your jar and shake it up! Your jar will get all cloudy and it will be hard to see anything.
4. Watch the sediments fall and form specific layers. Do not disturb your jar during this process, only observe it. This may take a day for everything to completely settle. Eventually, you will be able to see a clear layer of water somewhere in your jar and that's how you know everything has settled.

PLANT MARKERS

Color and cut out your own plant label markers! Attach to a toothpick, kabob stick, popsicle stick, paint stick, or straw with some tape or glue to add sturdiness. These markers will stick in the soil and help you remember what plant is growing there.



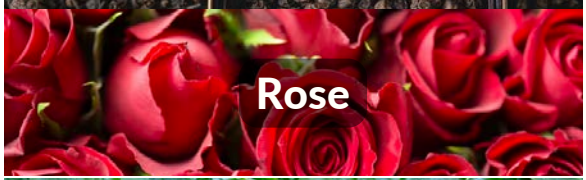
SCIENTIFIC NAMES

Did you know that every plant has a scientific name? These “scientific names” are almost always rooted in Latin. Luckily, the name often sounds and looks similar to the common name you are familiar with. Match the scientific plant name to the common name of the plant by drawing a line from the Scientific Name to the Common Name.

Scientific Name

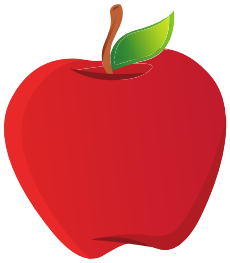
- Cocos nucifera
- Bamboosa aridinarifolia
- Spinacia oleracea
- Piper nigrum
- Daucus carota
- Rosa
- Cinnamomum verum
- Cirtus limon
- Cucumis sativas

Common Name



WHAT DOES IT COME FROM?

Below are pictures of things humans like you may eat every day. Look at each picture-is that food something that grew from a seed? Check Yes or No for each picture. Are there any surprising foods you didn't know come from seeds? What are some other foods in your house that were grown from seeds?



☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

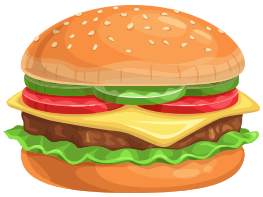
☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

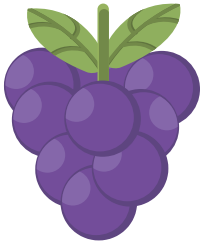
☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No

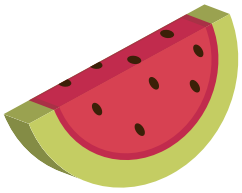


☐ Yes ☐ No



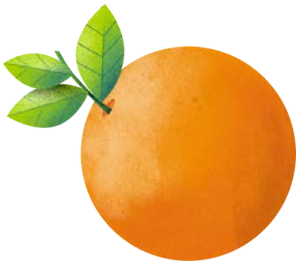
☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No



☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Yes ☐ No



☐ Yes ☐ No

FAIR PROJECT! POTTED PLANT CARED FOR BY YOU

Plant and Soil Science has almost everything to do with our everyday lives! We use ideas from this project to grow food and make our environment better. You can show how well you understand plants by caring for your own potted plant for fair!

MATERIALS:

- plant pot
- potting soil
- seed or fully formed plant
- water

DIRECTIONS STARTING WITH AN ESTABLISHED PLANT:

1. Fill your plant pot ¾ of the way with potting soil, then add in your plant with it's roots and some of the soil from your plant's previous
2. Finish filling your pot with soil almost to the top of the p of room between the top of your soil and the top of the
3. Water your plant according to the directions (some plan day, some every week, some once a month, some even l

DIRECTIONS STARTING FROM SEED:

1. Fill your plant pot almost to the top of the pot, leaving a little bit of room between the top of your soil and the top of the pot. Now put your seed in the middle of the pot an inch or two down (Look at your directions on your seed packet!).
2. Water your plant according to the directions (some plants need water every day, some every week, some once a month, some even less!)

IDEAS TO CONSIDER:

- Did you have any issues caring for your plant?
- What did you like most about caring for your plant?
- How could you do better at caring for your plant?

This can be a fair exhibit, Department 17, Class A, Item 4: Potted Plant Cared For By You! Visit www.lacrosseinterstatefair.com after June 1st, and you can enter this exhibit on the registration.

MARCH ANSWER KEYS

Answers to all Cloverbuddies activities will appear on the back cover of the following month's issue. For answers to this issue, watch for March's installment of Cloverbuddies!

PERFRORMANCE SEARCH

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I L Q A K B Q W U C K L T I W
D A N C E T O O L G A E U E F
S Z O S W P E P T A L K B I U
M Q P K D F T H J C O Z A O B
A K R S Z I T C O S T U M E S
C Q O H U U R Y V D X W J A X
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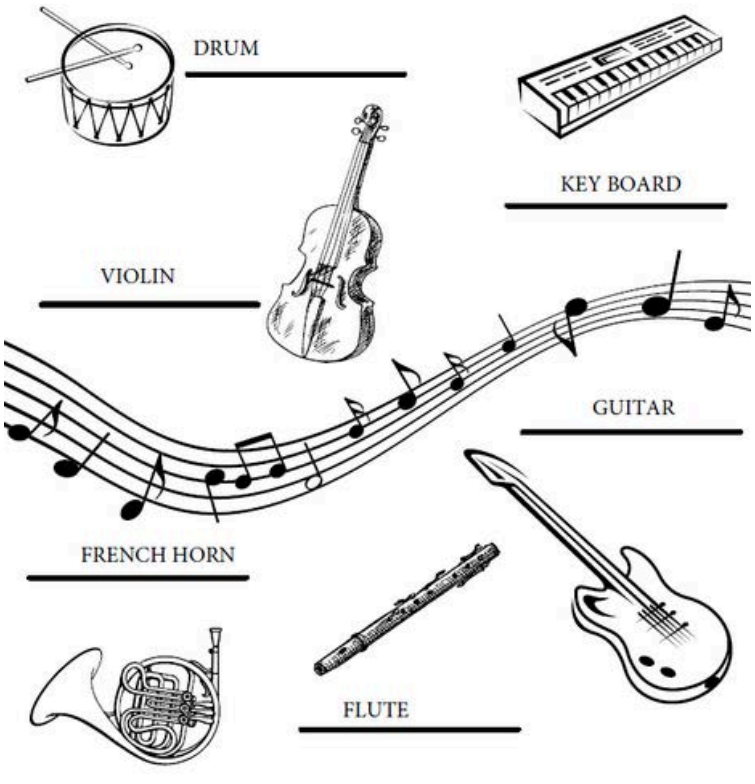
INSTRUMENTALS



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