

TEACHER MATERIALS - Egg People

CONCEPTS: Life Science - 1A - 1.3, 1.4
- 1C - 1.1
Physical Science
Art

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this lesson, the students will have grown grass (for hair) to complete the "egg people."

MATERIALS:	Egg Version	Potato version	Milk carton version
	egg cartons	potatoes	milk carton
	potting soil	knife	construction paper
	grass seed	spoons	potting soil
	indelible markers	potting soil	potting soil
		grass seed	grass seed
		indelible markers	indelible markers

BACKGROUND: This lesson is a fun way to teach students how grass sprouts while considering an alternative use for something commonly thought of as a waste product.

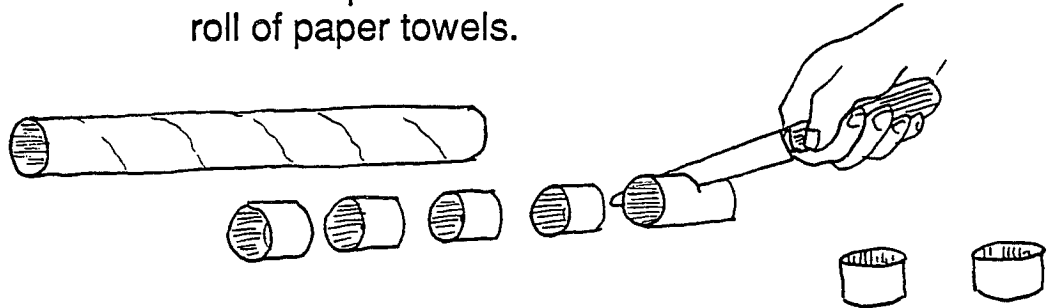
ACTIVITIES: I. EGG VERSION

1. Prepare ahead of the class;
 - A. Recruit volunteers (parents, Art Teacher, or older students) to assist if you choose the egg version.
 - B. Save eggs yourself using the manner described to open them.

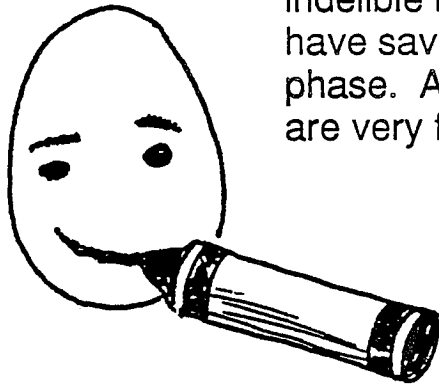
or

C. Have each student bring in an egg.

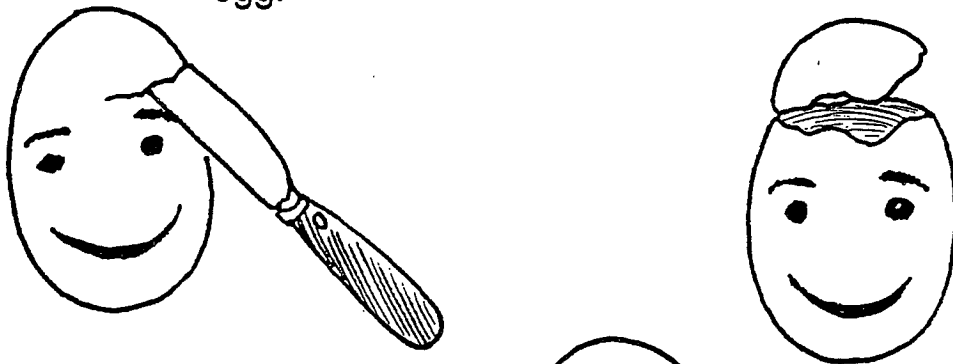
D. Make a holder for the egg person using either an egg carton cup or a section of an inside cardboard tube from a roll of paper towels.



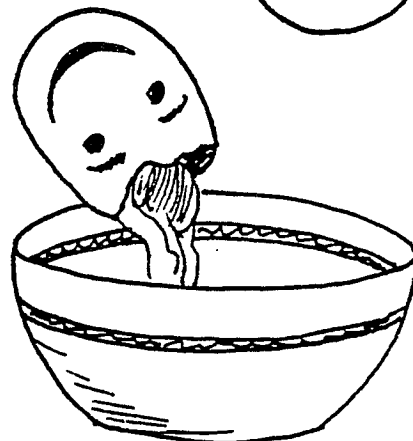
2. Draw a face on the bottom half of the raw egg with an indelible marker. (If you are providing the eggs which you have saved then draw on the faces after the planting phase. Ask the students to press gently as the egg shells are very fragile once broken open.)

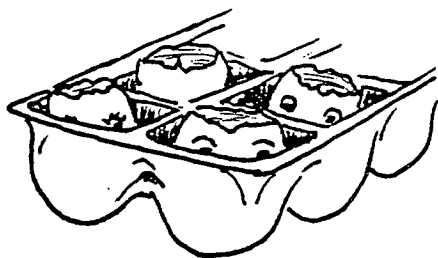


3. With a butter knife, remove the top quarter of the egg.



4. Remove the raw contents of the egg.





5. Place the half eggs in an egg carton.

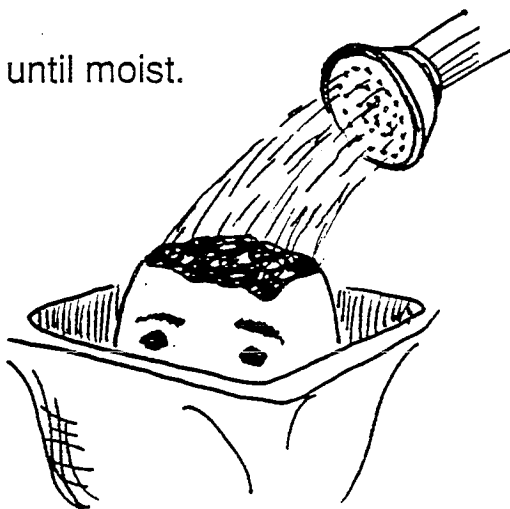


6. Have the students carefully fill the egg with soil. Ask them not to pick up the egg.

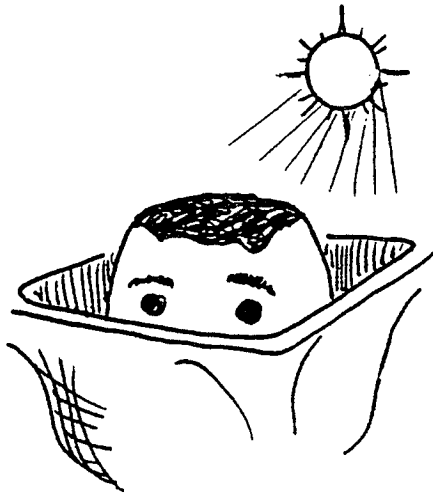
7. Have the students sprinkle the soil in the egg with grass seed.



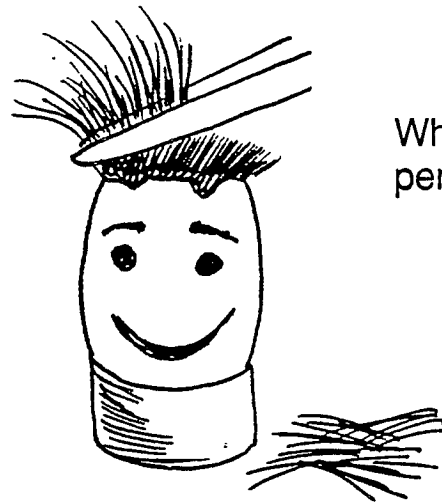
8. Water lightly until moist.



9. Place in the warm sun and allow to grow -- keep moist.



10. Grass will sprout.



When it gets too tall, give your egg person a "haircut."

11. Incorporate discussions about:

A. How fragile an egg is -- yet it protects the chicken's embryo.

B. Good grooming - as you cut the egg's hair.

C. Once the grass is very well established the egg person can be used for a soil conservation and erosion lesson.

1. Keep one egg grassless - just bare soil.

2. Using both it and an egg which has very well established grass (sod), fill both with water to the brim.

3. Shake or swirl.

4. Turn the eggs over and let the water run out.

5. Ask, "What happened?"

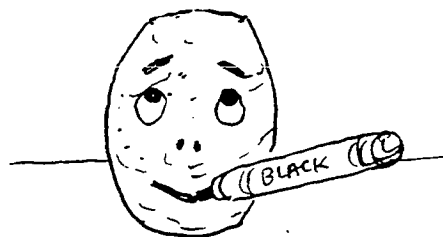
6. The roots of the grass hold both the soil and some of the water. This prevents erosion.

12. If the eggs are too delicate for your students at the time of year you choose to conduct this lesson, try one of the other versions.

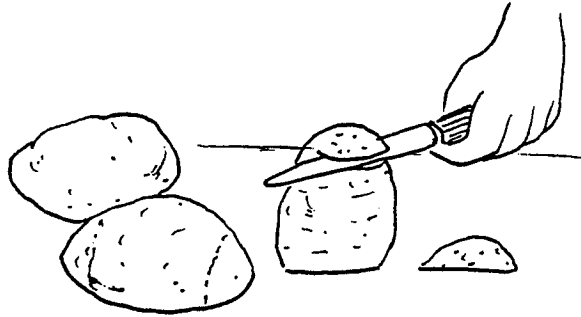
II. The Potato Version

1. Have each student bring in a potato - the size does not matter as long as it can be worked with.

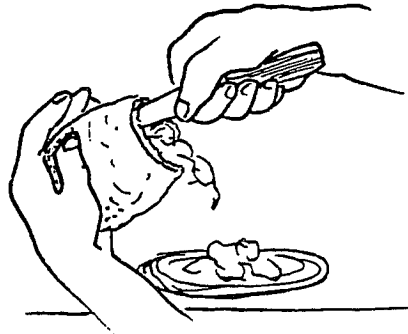
2. Draw a face on the bottom half of the raw potato with an indelible marker or make a face in some other way.



3. With a butter knife, remove the bottom of the potato so it can stand up - on end.



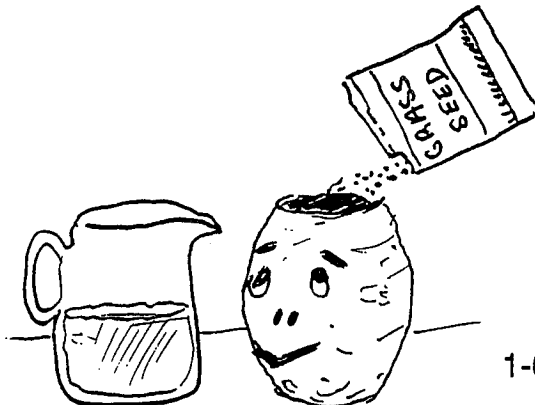
4. Have the students scoop out the top to make a cavity for planting.



5. Let the potatoes dry over night. This will help prevent rotting.

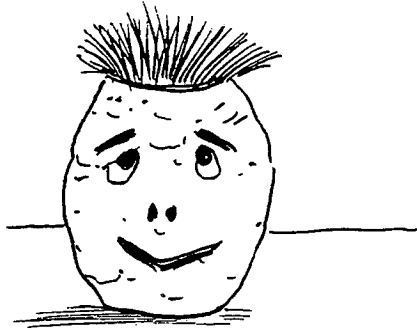


6. Have the students fill the potato cavity with soil .



7. Have the students sprinkle the soil in the potato with grass seed.

8. Water lightly until moist.



9. Place in the warm sun and allow to grow -- keep moist. While the children wait ask them to name their 'person.'

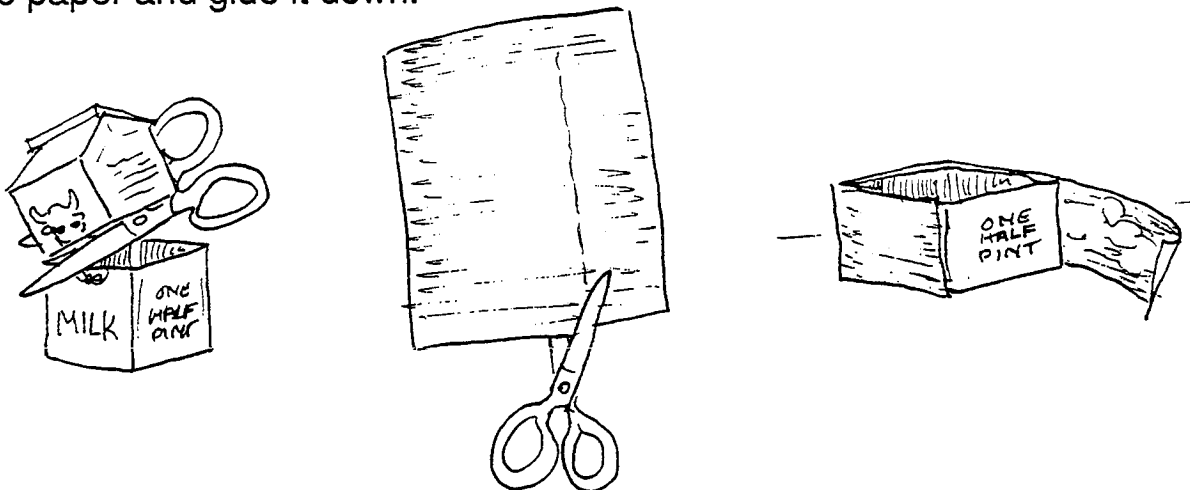
10. Grass will sprout. When it gets too tall, give your potato person a "haircut."

III. The Milk Carton Version

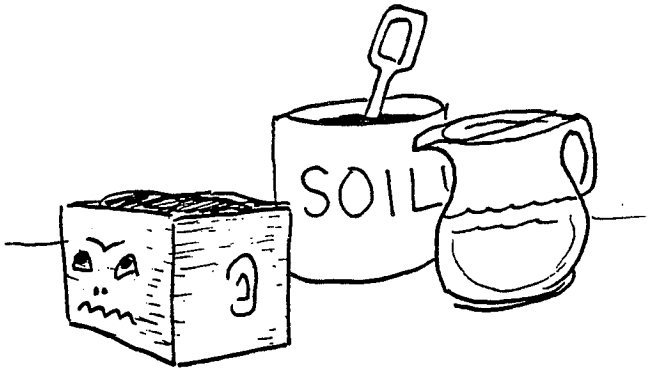
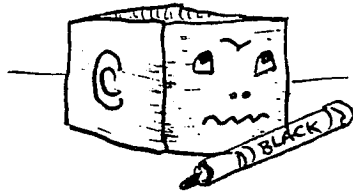
1. Have each student save their half pint milk carton from lunch.



2. Cut construction paper (whatever skin shades you or the students choose) to fit the depth and circumference of the milk carton. Cover the milk carton with the paper and glue it down.

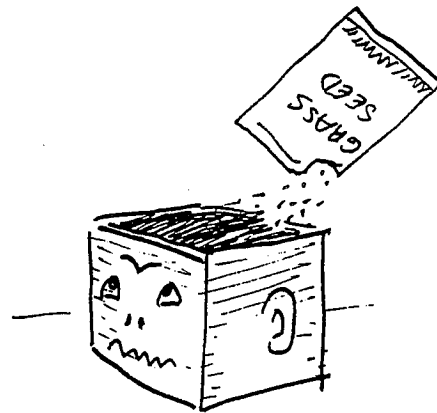


3. Have the students draw a face on the carton with an indelible marker.



4. Have the students fill the carton with soil.

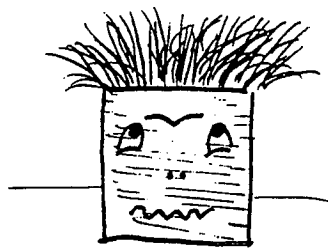
5. Have the students sprinkle the soil in the carton with grass seed.



6. Water lightly until moist.

7. Place in the warm sun and allow to grow -- keep moist.

8. Grass will sprout.



9. When it gets too tall, give your egg person a "haircut."