

### TEACHER MATERIALS - Initials

Math, Science, and Technology

#### CONCEPTS:

-Standard 4.1, 4.6- Living Environment

ELA

-Standard 1.1- Listening and Reading

Career Development

-Standard 3a.1- Basic Skills

#### OBJECTIVES:

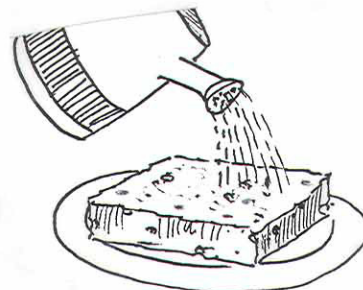
At the end of this unit the students will:

1. produce their initials by growing grass on a sponge.
2. understand that seeds need warmth and water to grow.
3. develop manual dexterity by sprinkling grass seed in a pattern.

**BACKGROUND:** Many of the plants we rely on are grown from seed. As children learn about the life cycle of plants and animals, germination of seed is an exciting event for students of this age. Growing grass in their own initials rewards students for being able to carefully sprinkle the seeds into letters.

#### MATERIALS:

a cellulose sponge for each student  
grass seed  
water  
plastic plates (just larger than the sponges)  
water soluble markers



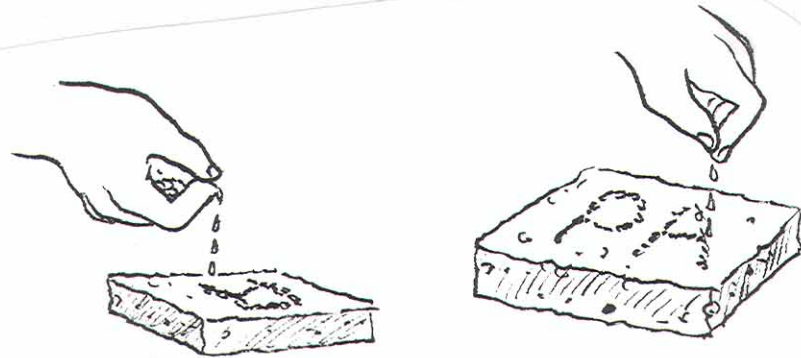
#### ACTIVITY:

1. Have each student thoroughly wet their sponge.
2. Place it on a small (6") plastic plate.



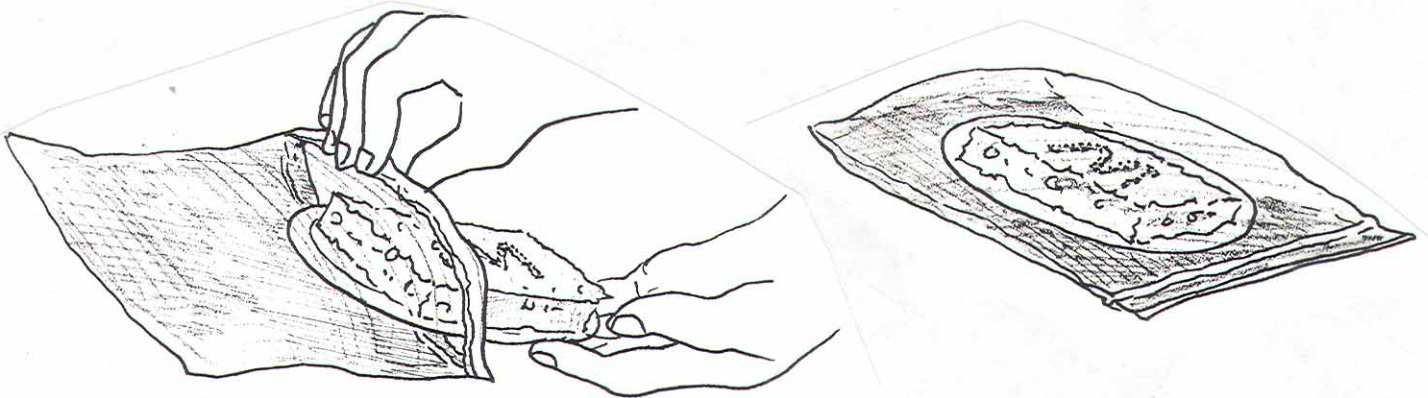
3. With a water soluble marker, have each student write their first and last initials on a moist cellulose sponge. (If students cannot write both letters, assist them or use just the first letter of their given name.)

4. Sprinkle grass seed following the line of the letters drawn. Make sure enough seed is used so that the grass will grow well.



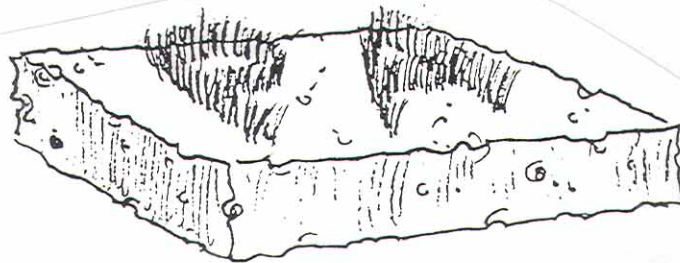
5. Water from bottom (on plate) if needed.

6. Slide into ziplock bag and seal.



7. Place the seeded sponges in a warm area.

8. When the seeds begin to sprout, make sure they have sunlight.



### **Alternatives**

1. Make the seeds into a shape instead of initials.
2. Use paper towels instead of sponges.