



Planting seeds and watching them grow into productive plants is one small example of how God designed Creation to provide for the needs of His people. Genesis 1:29 states that God has given us seed bearing plants for our food (source). His plan is the most direct and simplest solutions toward world hunger. This is the what we promote at Hope Seeds.

*Plant a Seed!
Feed a Soul!*

Hope Seeds is a Christian, charitable organization which provides seeds and agricultural support to missionaries and mission teams.

Hope Seeds Mission Statement
"Providing Quality Garden to a hungry
World in the name of Christ."



**Children's Ministry for
God's Little Gardeners**

Our newest garden teaching tools give "hope" to children of developing nations and empower them to grow their own food while learning about the love of Jesus Christ and their relationship with God in the garden.



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**SEEDS
AND
EGGS**

AN OBJECT LESSON





plant a seed ...

Spring is a time for planting and new growth. A seed is planted, it sprouts, and grows, its leaves unfold and reach for the sky... does this happen in your classroom? It can!

Materials Needed:

1. empty styrofoam egg carton
2. organic soil or peat-moss soil mixture
3. seeds (beans, cucumbers, melons, sunflowers, or marigolds)

Step 6 - Plants like light to grow

Now that you have the egg carton planted with the drip pan, you will want to place in a sunny location and also a place where the children can view for changes and growth. The lighting from the classroom is useful, but not enough of the full color spectrum for healthy photosynthesis. This is a great time to have a lesson on what sunlight gives to plants and what plants give to us.

Step 7 - Transplanting young plants

When the plants have grown for 10-21 days (depending upon the species and growth rate) they will be ready for transplanting into the soil outside, or into large containers. The first leaves on a plant (cotyledons) will drop off when the first pair of adult leaves begin to function. When you plants have two pairs of adult leaves they should be strong enough to transplant. Make sure the last threat of frost is past before you plant outside.

Step 8 - Disposing of the twice used egg carton

The styrofoam used in making the egg carton will last many, many years if tossed into a landfill. It is made from petroleum and should be placed into a recycle bin or it could be useful again for growing plants. If you are using paper-pulp egg cartons (paper-pulp egg carton is also useful though less durable) paper pulp can be planted directly into garden soil because it will decompose as organic matter).

THE FIRST GARDENER



...feed a soul!

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth..."

Day 1 - Light

Day 2 - Sky, Water

Day 3 - SEEDS

Day 4 - Sun, Moon, Stars

Day 5 - Fish, Birds

Day 6 - Animals and Mankind

Day 7 - Rest

Then God said, "Let the land burst forth with every sort of grass and seed-bearing plant. And let there be trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. The seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came. And so it was. The land was filled with seed-bearing plants and trees, and their seeds produced plants and trees of like kind. And God saw that it was good. This all happened on the third day.

(Genesis 1:11-13 ~ Life Application Study Bible)

Thank you for the world so sweet
Thank you for the food we eat
Thank you for the birds that sing
Thank you God for everything.

Amen

(Wee Sing Bible Songs)

God in heaven, hear our prayer
Keep us in your loving care
Send your blessings from above
Guide us to grow in faith and love.
Amen.

Step 1 - Egg carton

Obtain a 12 egg styrofoam container. This is also a valuable lesson in recycling products for multiple uses and minimizing the waste we put into our garbage landfills.

Step 2 - Preparing the carton for use

Trim the lid and flap from the base of the container. The flap can be disposed of, while the lid will be useful as a drip container

Step 3 - Drainage holes

Using the scissors or pencil, poke a small hole into the bottom of the 12 compartments of the container. This will allow excess water to drain from the soil and for roots to grow through.

Step 4 - Fill with growing medium

Fill the 12 compartments with the soil medium you have selected, and moisten the soil with a sprinkling can.

Step 5 - Planting seed

Using a pencil (eraser end) poke a 1/2 inch depression into the moist soil. Place 1 or 2 seeds into the depression and compress soil over the seed. Sprinkle the planted seeds lightly with water. CAUTION: Do not keep seed overly wet! Once planted and sprinkled in, you can add water to the drip pan and the soil will absorb what it needs from the bottom.