



Sprouting Kernels

Watch corn kernels germinate and learn how corn is grown on farms.



Corn seeds are called kernels. One ear of corn contains around 800 kernels! With soil, light, water, and nutrients, each kernel can grow into a new corn plant. Farmers plant corn in the spring when the soil warms up and the danger of freezing temperatures has passed. Corn plants grow all summer and are ready to harvest in the fall. A mature corn plant grows to be 6 – 8 feet tall! Most mature corn plants hold one or two ears of corn.

To read about Presley and her family's corn farm click [here](https://tinyurl.com/yx8ggxgc).
<https://tinyurl.com/yx8ggxgc>

To read facts about corn click [here](https://tinyurl.com/y55hqzzb).
<https://tinyurl.com/y55hqzzb>

To watch a video explaining the corn growth process click [here](https://tinyurl.com/yyd8zgo8).
<https://tinyurl.com/yyd8zgo8>

To watch a video that shows the corn growing season in just one minute click [here](https://tinyurl.com/yyhqs3af).
<https://tinyurl.com/yyhqs3af>

Germinating Corn Kernels

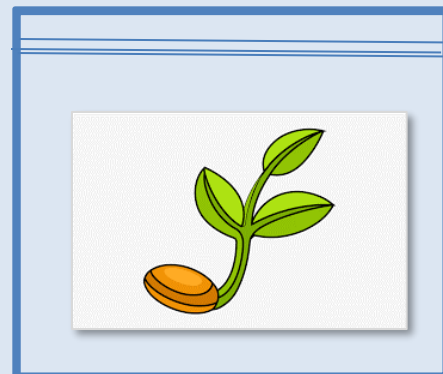
This experiment allows you to see a corn kernel germinating (starting to grow.) You can't see the roots sprout when the seed is under soil, but since there is no soil in this experiment you can see the whole process!

Materials:

- 1 corn kernel (Corn seeds can be bought in packages online and at local hardware stores from late winter until early summer.)
- 1 Ziploc bag
- 1 paper towel
- Spray water bottle

Instructions:

1. Dampen paper towel with spray bottle.
2. Place wet paper towel in Ziploc Bag.
3. Place corn kernel on top of wet paper towel.
4. Close Ziploc Bag.
5. Place Ziploc Bag in a warm, sunny spot.
6. Add water to paper towel when it dries out.
7. Observe your plant growing in 3-5 days!



Note: Corn plants need soil, light, water, and nutrients to grow into mature plants. Because this experiment does not use soil or nutrients, this kernel will not grow into a mature plant. Do you have extra corn kernels? Try planting some in soil and see what happens!

