**Do seeds need water to germinate?**

**Teacher notes**

This is a good activity to make a start on helping students to adopt a suitable approach to investigations. Setting up the equipment needed and how to make this a **fair test**. Making a **prediction** and **recording results.**

This activity provides an opportunity for recording observations, in writing and through drawings.

You need:

* Radish or mustard seeds.
* Containers/pots and cling film.
* Piece of paper towel.
* Sticky label and pencil.

Note: -

1. Mustard seed works well (as they germinate in 3 to 5 days), but others can be used, such as wheat. Times for germination may vary at different temperatures.
2. Check the damp paper towel. It needs to be kept damp.

**The investigation**

1. Students set up 2 pots as shown in the table.
2. Students record what they think will happen in the middle column
3. Place the pots in a warm light area.
4. After 3 to 5 days, student check the seeds and draw what they see when they look in the jars in the third column.

Results

Do seeds need water to germinate?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **How I set up the pots** | **What I think will happen**  **to the seeds** | **What happened?** |
| Container with cling film    Damp paper towel |  |  |
| Container with cling film  A black and white rectangular object with a white background  Description automatically generated  Dry paper towel |  |  |