

Saving Pepper Seeds

Next Generation Science



For the Classroom

- Group structure - small groups
- Location - at tables
- Approximate time - 20 minutes

Next Generation Science Standards

- 4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

Materials

- Bell peppers (1 per small group)
- Cutting board (1 per small group)
- Nylon knife (1 per small group)
- Paper towels
- Plastic bags or glass jars

Directions

Review with students the different plant parts and the function that they serve for the plant. Ask students to identify what part of the bell pepper plant we eat (and what they expect to see inside of a bell pepper). Explain that today you will be dissecting a pepper plant and exploring the structures that support a pepper plant in reproduction.

1. If you are growing pepper plants, select a pepper from the strongest plant but allow it to remain on the plant until it is completely ripe and starts to soften and wrinkle. You may also continue with peppers grown by other farmers as well.
2. Carefully slice the pepper in half on the cutting board using a nylon knife. Remove the seeds from the pepper - compost any that are discolored and place the rest on a paper towel to dry.
3. Allow seeds to dry for about a week in a warm spot (but not in direct sunlight), turning every couple of days to make sure the bottom dries as well.
4. Store seeds in sealed plastic bags or sealed jars in a cool, dark, dry area like in the fridge.

Learn more

- [Seed Saving Guide](#)
- [6 Steps to Save Pepper Seed](#)
- [Harvesting Pepper Seeds](#)



Lesson Created by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics