

Space for Seeds to Stretch 2.

Measuring to Make Seed Tapes



For the Classroom:

- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - at seats
- Approximate time - 40 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence:

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.MD.A.1. Measure the length of an object by selecting and using appropriate tools such as rulers, yardsticks, meter sticks, and measuring tapes.



Materials:

- Spinach seeds (5 seeds per child)
- Strips of newspaper, cut to about 1 in wide, typically about 22 in long (1 per child)
- Pencils (1 per child)
- Flour, water, bowl to make paste (1 per small group)
- Popsicle sticks for paste (1 per small group)
- Measuring tools, such as rulers, yardsticks, measuring tapes (selection per small group)

Directions:

1. Distribute a strip of newspaper to each child. Explain that the children will be gluing seeds onto their strip of newspaper and after it dries, planting the newspaper strip in the ground so the seeds can grow.
2. Distribute a selection of measuring tools to each small group. Explain that it is important that we give enough space for each seed to grow.
3. Distribute a pencil to each child. Ask children to write their name on their newspaper strip. Then, explain that spinach seeds need to be 4 inches apart to grow. Ask children to mark with a pencil where they will plant their first spinach seed on the newspaper. Then, select the appropriate measuring tool to measure 4 in from that spot to mark where the next spinach seed will be planted, until they are out of room on their newspaper strip.
4. Distribute a small bowl to each small group. Fill it about $\frac{1}{3}$ full of flour and then add water until it becomes sticky. Add a popsicle stick to each bowl.
5. Distribute 5 spinach seeds to each child. Explain that they will place a small dab of glue on their newspaper strip then place a seed gently on top.
6. Allow newspaper strips to dry. Then, children can plant their newspaper strips just barely under the soil and water to them to see if their seeds will grow!

Lesson written by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics