

## Grow Lab Information

### Instructions...

Either make pots using the pot maker or use a milk carton or other re-purposed container for planting. Put the containers on the planting tray that fits on the Grow Lab table.

Put seed starter into the tub for planting in your classroom

Plant two seeds per container. Eventually you cut back the weaker of the two.

Cover the seedlings so they won't dry out and put them on the Grow Lab table. The lights need to be on as seeds need warmth to germinate.

Mist the soil around the plants every day **if** the soil is not damp to the touch.

Remove the cover once the seedlings have germinated. The lights must be kept low - 2"-3" - over the plants or they will not get leggy.

Transplant seedlings eventually into sturdier cups (potting soil provided but no cups)

*Keep me posted on where I can help out.*

### Ideas:

K-2, Coordinate planting with FOSS Science

Grow flowers for a Mother's Day gift

Grow sunflowers for children to plant at home in their garden or in a pot if they are apartment dwellers.

Grow edible flowers including nasturiums

Grow marigolds that you plant around tomatoes to deter pests.

Grow warm season fruiting plants for our summer garden, for children to take home, or maybe to sell. These include eggplant, tomatoes, cukes, and peppers. (Caveat: I can only use a few of each for our garden for they are big plants.)

Once seedlings are in place in the Grow Lab the lights must be turned on. There is a timer that controls the lights which must be on for 12 hours. Once the seedlings are 3"-4" high a fan must also be activated. The fan simulates the wind and strengthens the seedlings. It also keeps mildew from forming. There are two fans in the Grow Lab Box, one for each level of the Grow Lab. They should be run simultaneously with the grow lights.



### Materials available:

one planting tray per classroom

seed starter

pot maker for making small pots  
for seed starting

seeds

tub for seed starter

trowel

soil for transplanting

mister

## **Setting-up the Grow Lab**

See the manual in the School Garden File for information on how to set up the Grow Lab.

Equipment for the Grow Lab - timer, fans, mister, pot makers are stored in the shed.

Consumables need to be replaced every year. These include the following: seed starter soil and seeds,