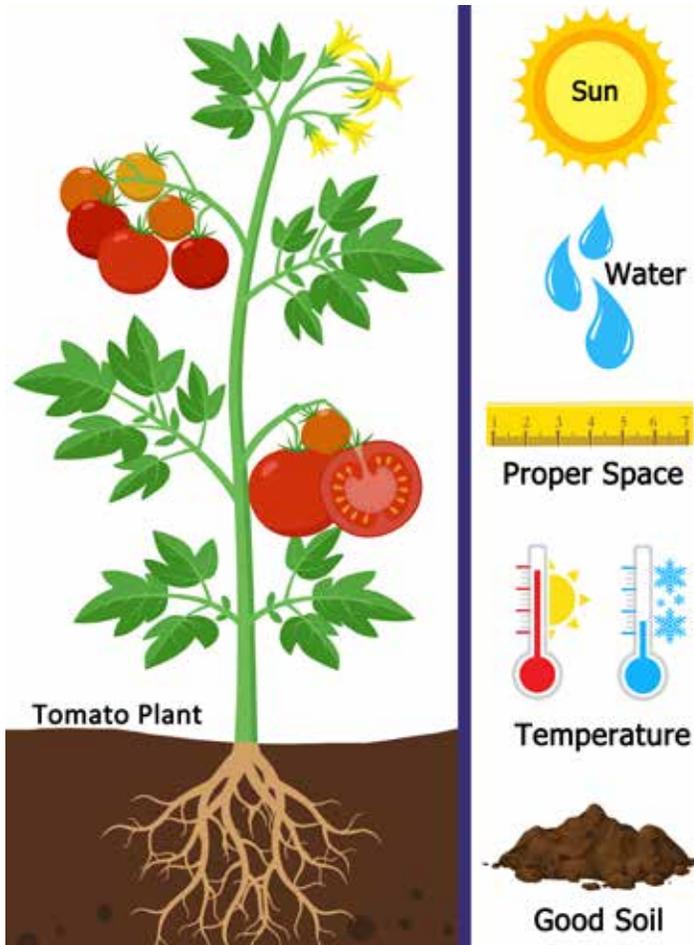


What Do Plants Need?

Building your own window greenhouse!

Did you know that plants need a few key things in order to grow, just like you!?!



Today we are going to create an environment where we can watch our new plant grow!

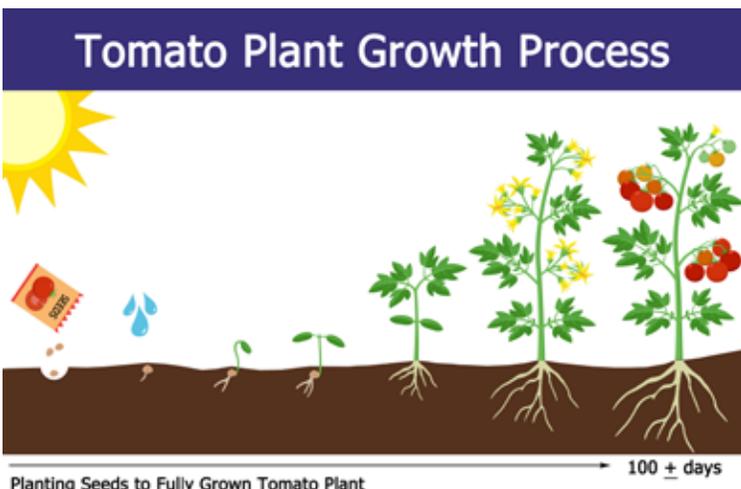
Because plants need sun, your greenhouse must be taped or placed in a window that gets good sunlight throughout the day (8-10 hours).

The paper towel is going to act as both our source of water (once moistened) and our soil media! When you visit the GrowWELL garden you will see our plants planted in containers with good, mineral rich soil!

We are using a plastic sandwich bag as our greenhouse walls. The plastic bag allows in sun light, but also traps condensate from the moist paper towel which helps provide water for the seed to grow.

Because our greenhouses are going to be small we will only be planting 1 or 2 seeds! Proper space is important and overcrowding your plants will lead to plant diseases and stunted growth!

When growing plants outdoors you must be aware of what season that plant prefers to grow in. For example take a tomato, in North Carolina tomatoes only grow during the summer because they thrive in lots of sunshine and warm weather. Winter crops tend to be heartier and do not produce as much fruit.



Planting Seeds to Fully Grown Tomato Plant

What Do Plants Need?

Building your own window greenhouse!

Activity

Supplies:

- Paper House Cutout
- Crayons
- Sandwich Bag
- Seed(s)
- Paper Towel
- Water
- Tape/ Stapler



Step 1:

Decorate your greenhouse! Use your markers and crayons to make your greenhouse unique! Show us your creativity!

Step 2:

Have a parent or older sibling help you moisten the paper towel. The paper towel should not be soaking wet but moist enough to feel damp in your hand.

Step 3:

Fold the paper towel into a square that will fit in the plastic sandwich bag. Try to create a little pocket where you can plant your bean seed.

Step 4:

Plant your seed in the paper towel pocket you made! (Hint: soaking your seed overnight will help it sprout faster)

Step 5:

Place the paper towel with the seed into the plastic sandwich bag. Seal the bag.

Step 6:

Attach the plastic bag (with seed and paper towel inside) to your decorated greenhouse. Use tape or staples.

Step 7:

With the help of a parent or sibling decide on a place for your greenhouse. Remember it needs lots of sunlight (8-10 hours!), so finding a sunny window is best.

Step 8:

Watch your new plant grow!!!! When the seedling has out-grown the bag, plant with soil in a small container. Continue watering and sunning your new plant friend!