

# Hyacinth Bean Lesson

## Concepts and Skills:

- Counting- groups of 10
- Life Cycles-seeds
- Stages of life- baby, child, adult, elderly
- Patterns

## SOLs Covered:

Math- K.4, K.19

Science- K.1, K.4, K.6, K.8, K.9

English- K.2

## Activities:

1. Students collect seed pods from the Hyacinth bean vines. Observe the attributes of the seed pods at different stages of maturity (very purple-fresh pods up to brown and shriveled- last stage). Review life cycles.
2. Group the pods into 4 stages of maturity. Have kids identify which ones would be the "baby, child, adult and old " seed pods. Use descriptive words such as "youngest, oldest, next youngest..." Take turns adding their pods to those groups. Discuss differences and similarities between them.
3. Make patterns with the different seed pods (ie; purple, purple, brown...)
4. Students "zip open" the youngest seed pod. Observe the seeds. Then open the old, brown seen pod. Observe the seeds. Discuss the differences.
5. Next, hand students several shriveled, brown seed pods. They open and count how many total seeds they have. Take turns around the circle, each student adds a seed to the pile as everyone counts aloud. When each pile reaches 10, stop and start a new pile. How many groups of 10 did the class find?
6. Package the groups of 10 in separate envelopes. These will be given as gifts to visitors of Tuckahoe's Discovery Schoolyard who can plant them in their own gardens next spring.
7. Students may take home some seeds to save. Save class seeds to plant in the spring garden.

## Extensions:

- Decorate the envelopes with pictures of the mature Hyacinth vine and directions for growing.
- Group the seeds in 2's, 5's, 10's. Use as counters.