

Keston Challenge Number 2: *Germinating Seeds*

Ask your grown up to help you with this challenge.

If you have some plant seeds from a packet you could use them. If not, you can try growing something from fruit pips and seeds.

You need to save any pips or seeds from fruit which you use in the kitchen. I found that I had seeds from a red pepper, a tomato, a lemon, an apple and a chilli pepper.



Plant the seeds in pots of soil. (You could use an old yoghurt pot with holes made in the bottom if you do not have a plant pot.) Use soil compost or ordinary soil. Remember to wear gloves and wash your hands afterwards. Make a hole in the compost twice the size of the seed and drop the seed into the hole and cover it with compost.



Chilli seeds



lemon pips



covered with soil.

Give the seeds a little water and keep them somewhere light and warm – like a window ledge. Some seeds need different conditions so have a look at the link at the bottom of this page. I am putting all my seeds on the windowsill to see if I can get them to germinate.



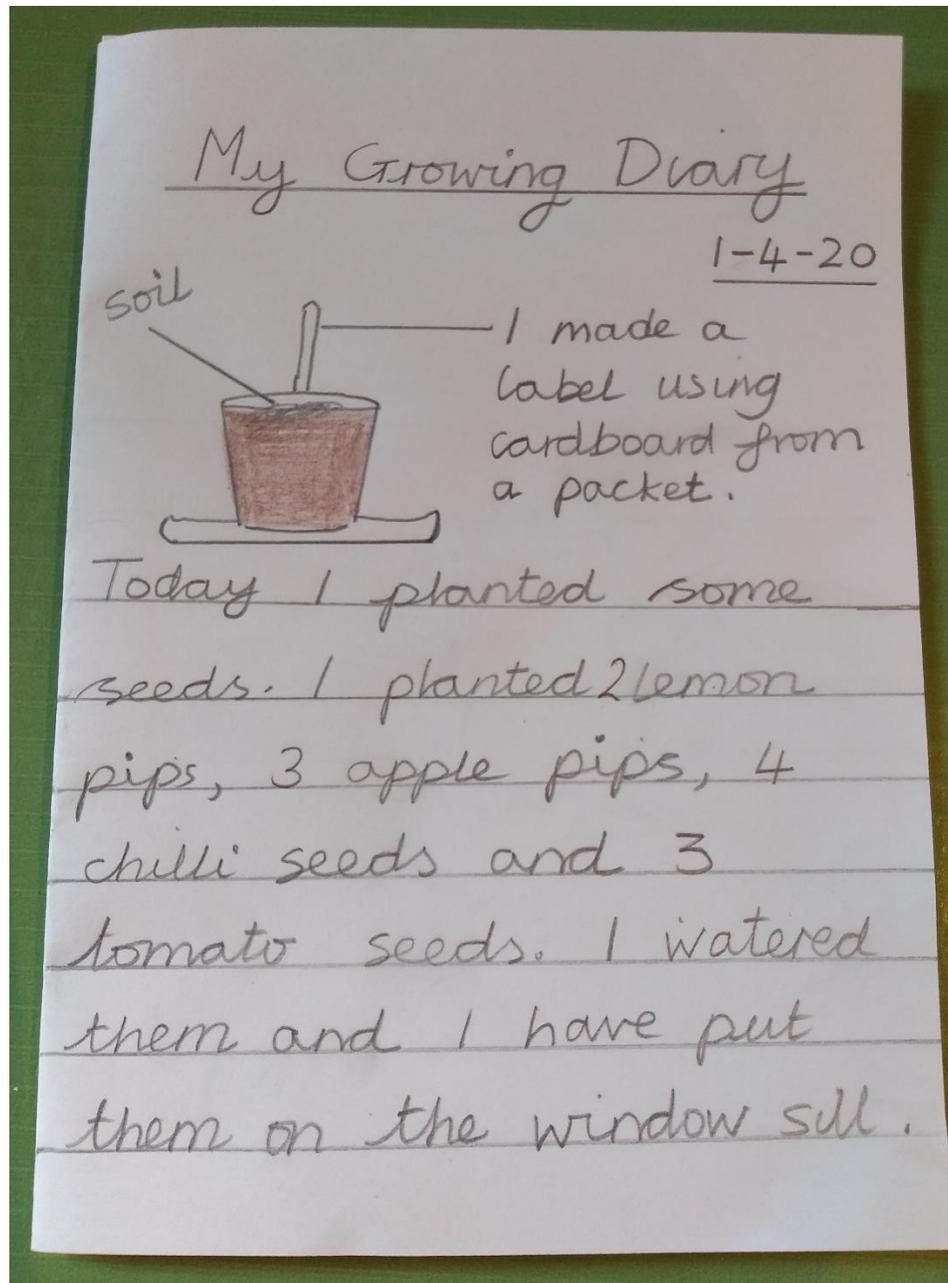
Make labels for each pot. I used cardboard from a cereal packet, and I stuck them to the outside of the pot. I used a plastic tray from some old food packaging to collect any excess water.

Water the seeds lightly every two days. Check to see if anything happens. You will need to be patient – it can take a long time but hopefully they will germinate. This means they will start to grow into a little plant called a seedling. You will see a green shoot. Keep watering and watching your seedling.

Make a booklet and keep a diary of what happens. Record every few days anything you notice.

I am going to do this at the same time, and I will let you know if I am successful at germinating these seeds!

My diary looks like this. Can you do the same?



Keep this challenge somewhere safe. We will send you other activity challenges and they will be interesting to look at when we return to school.

Further advice link:

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Activity/Pips-seeds?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D20%26ps%3D10%26f%3D2,2:1,1:%26page%3D2>