

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Growing Plants

## Data and Prediction

**Investigative Question:** Will plants in organic material grow differently than those grown in inorganic material?

**Possible Types of Data to Collect:** List different kinds of data that you could collect about plant growth. Circle one or two items that you will observe.

**Prediction:** Explain what you think will happen to the plants grown in perlite compared to those grown in potting soil with worm castings.

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## Procedure

### Materials:

- Two pieces of masking tape (optional)
- Permanent marker
- Two plastic cups
- Organic planting material (potting soil)
- Inorganic planting material (perlite)
- Six seeds
- Spray bottle of water
- Extra worm castings (optional)
- Gloves (optional)

### Procedure:

1. Label one cup “Organic” and the other cup “Inorganic.” Include the names of the people in your group, today’s date, and the type of seed you’re planting on each cup.
2. Fill the inorganic cup 3/4 full with perlite.
3. Fill the organic cup 3/4 full with the potting soil. (If you’d like, you can add a small pinch of extra worm castings to the potting soil.)
4. Using your finger or a pencil, make three holes 1 centimeter deep in the potting soil and three holes in the perlite. Place one seed into each hole and cover it up.
5. Spray each cup with water so that the potting soil or perlite in it is moist. The water should not pool in the bottom of the cup.
6. Carefully place your planting cups in a well-lit or sunny area identified by your teacher.
7. Draw or describe observations about your cups regularly for two to three weeks. You can include measurements, colors, and examples to add details to your descriptions.
8. Check each day to make sure the material in the cups is moist, but not soggy. Mist the cups with water if necessary.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Growing Plants Observations

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of your table)

Date	Plants in Inorganic Material	Plants in Organic Material

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Observations

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(Title of your table)

Date	Plants in Inorganic Material	Plants in Organic Material

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Growing Plants Observations

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of your table)

Date	Plants in Inorganic Material	Plants in Organic Material

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Growing Plants

## Observations

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title of your table)

Date	Plants in Inorganic Material	Plants in Organic Material

You will analyze the data you have collected during the **Nutrients Help Plants** lesson.