

Activity Sheet



“Gus Grows a Plant”

By Frank Remkiewicz

Spring is here and Gus wants to grow a plant. All he needs is seeds, water, sun and a little bit of love.

Before you read this book: Ask the children to look at the cover of the book. What do they see. The title of the book is “Gus Grows a Plant.” What does the child think Gus will need to grow a plant?

While you read this book: “Spring is here.” Ask the children if they know what spring is. Explain that in Wisconsin there are four seasons. Some seasons are cold and some are warm. “The plant has a worm.” Have a short discussion about worms. Ask the children if they have ever seen a worm in the soil. Worms are helpful to plants. They leave castings that give the plants nutrients. At the end of the book the sunflower is tall. Ask the children how long they think it took for the plant to grow that tall, and what season it is when the sunflower is the tallest.

After you read this book: Sunflowers are flowers and food. There are some sunflower seeds we eat, we can also eat the sprouts, and sunflowers are pretty to look at. The children can grow their own sunflower sprouts. In a shallow tray, lightly cover sunflower seeds with soil. Use the same bulk bag of untreated oil sunflower seeds you feed the birds. Remind children that they will need to water daily (mist with spray bottle). The tray should be put in a window for sunlight. After about 7 days microgreens will be ready to eat; clip, wash, and eat

Try this at home: Go on a plant hunt. Walk around your community and try to spot planted flowers or food. Are the plants short or tall like Gus’ plant? Watch the read aloud on YouTube, this one includes sign language!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgYmZMcaX3A>

Additional Resources:

“Planting a Rainbow” by Lois Ehlert

“The Tiny Seed” by Eric Carle

“Tops and Bottoms” by Janet Stevens

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/3d/files/2018/10/Tops-and-Bottoms.pdf>