

Grassy Haired Friend

Materials

Newspaper, if needed
8-ounce paper or foam cups
Markers
Planting soil
Easy growing grass seed
Water
Watering can or small pitcher
Craft sticks or tongue depressors

What to do

1. This is a good outdoor activity. If you do the activity indoors, cover the work area with newspaper.
2. Give each child a paper or foam cup. Help the children draw a face on their cups using markers. Write the child's name on the back of her cup.
3. Put an extra cup next to the soil and ask the children to use it to scoop soil into their cups. Fill it to about $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1 cm) from the top of the cup.
4. Show the children how to sprinkle grass seed onto the soil. Encourage the children to cover the seeds lightly by sprinkling some soil on top of them.
5. Pour water from a watering can to dampen the soil.
6. Ask the children to name their cup characters.
7. Give each child a craft stick. Help each child write the name of her cup character on one side of the craft stick and draw line markers in centimeters or inches on the other side.
8. Check the progress of the seeds daily.

More to do

More Science: Make experimental cups of grass using different soils, grass seeds, light, and watering. Explore and discuss the possible effects of these variables.

Math: The children can use scissors to cut the "hair" of their characters. Ask the children to chart the growth of their grass.

Related books

Hats Off to Hair by Virginia Kroll
How Emily Blair Got Her Fabulous Hair by Susan Garrison Beroza
Hubert's Hair Raising Adventure by Bill Peet
In the Tall, Tall Grass by Denise Fleming

 Sandra Nagel, White Lake, MI

Buggy Grass

Materials

Plastic bugs
Magnifiers

What to do

1. Hide plastic bugs outside in the grass, on tree branches, and so on.
2. Give the children magnifiers and encourage them to find the bugs.

More to do

Sand and Water Table: Hide the plastic bugs in a sensory table among plastic green grass. Encourage the children to find the bugs.

Snack: Eat foods that insects eat, such as vegetables (lettuce, radishes, celery, carrot), peanut butter, fruit (apples, watermelon, oranges, and so on), raisins, fruit juice, honey, and crackers.

Related books

Bugs by Nancy Winslow Parker and Joan Richards Wright
The Grouchy Ladybug Board Book by Eric Carle
Have You Seen Bugs? by Joanne Oppenheim
Icky Bug Alphabet Book by Jerry Pallotta
Icky Bug Counting Book by Jerry Pallotta
In the Tall, Tall Grass by Denise Fleming
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle
The Very Quiet Cricket by Eric Carle