



DESIGN A SEED PACKET

Materials you need:

- A box of mail envelopes or the old pay packet type envelopes.
- Pens and colouring pencils.
- Blank sticker labels
- Seeds – larger varieties make it easier for children to pick up and sort. Consider using sunflower, pumpkin, beans, pea, zinnia flowers.
- Tweezers
- Photos of the seeds labelled with correct name.

Setup for play:

- Add the seeds to a table along with the labelled photos.
- Set up the envelopes, pens and stickers close by.
- Encourage children to identify and name the seeds then choose the ones they want to use.
- After they choose an envelope ask them to design their own seed packet using the materials provided.
- When they are happy with their designs they can use the tweezers to pick up and place seeds into their envelopes to then take home and plant.

What are they learning with this activity?

As the children create design and fill their seed packets they are learning to:

- Use play to investigate and explore new ideas
- Use descriptive language
- Explore simple scientific concepts through play and experimentation
- Manipulate small objects using pincer movements and tweezers.
- Use their senses to explore and choose natural materials
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Express themselves creatively
- Listen to and follow directions
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Work together in a group with others
- Understand lifecycles and how food gets to our plates
- Recognise symbols and how things can represent other things

Extending the play:

- Put all the seeds together in a basket and ask the children to sort into categories using the pictures as a guide.
- Dissect a kidney bean seed to see what is inside (soak in water overnight first to make it easier to rub off the coat and pull apart). Label the parts.

