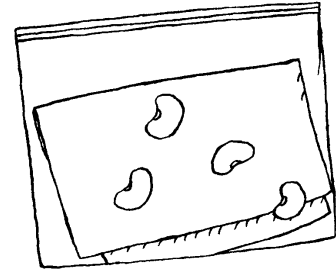


Growing Seeds Indoors: Seed Needs

Have you wondered why seeds can sit in a seed package for years and years and never start to grow? You can discover what makes seeds start to grow by doing this easy experiment.

You will need:

- 2 plastic zip-lock sandwich bags
- 8 lima bean seeds (dry, not from a can)
- 2 paper towels
- water



Fold each of the paper towels into fourths. **Moisten** one of the towels with water but **leave** the other one dry. **Place** the wet paper towel in one of the plastic sandwich bags and the dry paper towel in the other. On each of the paper towels **place** 4 lima bean seeds. **Zip** up the plastic bags.

Watch the seeds over the next week.

What happens to the seeds that are on the wet paper towel? _____

What happens to the seeds on the dry paper towel? _____

Which seeds start to grow? _____

Write down what you see. Draw a picture of the seeds.

When a seed pulls in water to start growing it is called **imbibition**. Until a seed is in contact with water it will not grow.