Many plants begin their lives as seeds. Seeds can come in different shapes and sizes. Seeds are important; they are what grows a new plant.

Do you recognize any of these seeds? All of these seeds could grow into a new plant, but before they do so, they must germinate. Germination is when a seed sprouts.
Germination of a Bean Seed

Today you will set up a seed to germinate. Then, over the next few weeks (and maybe even beyond) you will watch your bean grow.

Equipment:

- 4 Bean Seeds
- Paper Towels
- Water
- Clear Plastic Cup

Procedure:

Stage 1 – Set-up – Do this today

1. Draw a picture of one of your seeds.
2. Wet your paper towels.
3. Place your paper towels into your cup.
4. Carefully place your bean seeds between the paper towel and the cup.
5. Keep your paper towel moist and the cup in a warm, not hot, area.

Stage 2 – Germination – Follow this procedure once every day

6. Add water to wet your paper towel – the cup should not be filling with water.
7. Check your seeds to see if there have been any changes.
8. Draw a picture of one of the seeds; label the picture with the date.

Stage 3 – Planting – Follow these steps when told to do so by your teacher.

9. Cut one of your beans open and draw what you see.
10. Plant the other beans in soil.
11. Every week measure the height of your bean and draw what the plant looks like, label the picture with the date.