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I Wonder...

Which our garden's vegetable seeds will sprout the fastest?

Will it be corn?

Will it be beans?

Will it be pumpkin?

Will it be melon?

I Think...

That beans will be the fastest to germinate. I believe this because we usually get them first in crops.

I predict that pumkin and melon will be last to germinate, because they are really heavy, and have a lot to do inside of them.

What I Did

I took four different types of vegetable seeds. I put each set of seeds on a paper towel in a different dish. The reason I used paper towels instead of dirt was so I could more easily see what the seeds would do. I could just lift up the top paper towel, instead of pulling the seeds out of the dirt.

I then photographed each set of seeds.

After taking the photographs, I put another paper towel over the seeds, and added water, so that the seeds could start to germinate.

Every few days I checked the seeds. I took some photographs to record my observations.

What Happened

Day One: I started the experiment.

Day Two: I noticed nothing.

Day Three: I noticed nothing.

Day Four:

Bean: I noticed a tiny particle peeking out of the side of one bean. We also noticed little pieces of white stuff that were not on the seeds.

Corn: On a few corn kernels, I saw a tiny particle sticking out at the top.

Pumpkin: I noticed no changes.

Melon: I noticed no changes.

Day Six:

Beans: Many seeds had one tiny root. The largest one I saw was 1 ¼ centimeters long.

Corn: Most of the kernels had one tiny root. The longest root was about 1 ½ centimeters long.

Pumpkin: One of the pumpkin seeds looked darker or brown in the middle.

Melon: No change

Day 11:

Beans: the biggest root was about 5 centimeters. On most of the beans with a large root there were 5 or 6 tiny roots sprouting off of the big root, like spikes. The beans seem to be shedding their brown skins, and I can see white underneath them. The white bean without the shell is a little yellow green.

Corn: Each kernel root was long. The longest root was 6 centimeters. On the top of many of the kernels, another shoot started to grow. This second shoot was green and was about 1 centimeter long.

Pumpkin: No change

Melon: No change

Day 13

I planted some of the beans and the corn, so we can grow them in our garden. There was still no change with the melon and pumpkin seeds.

What I Learned:

I learned that the beans germinate faster than pumpkin or melon.

I learned that the corn germinates about as fast as the beans, which is interesting, because unlike beans, corn is a late summer vegetable.

I was surprised that the corn germinated as fast as the bean.

I'm not sure about why the melon and the pumpkin haven't germinated. Either the melon and the pumpkin take much longer to germinate, or there is something wrong with the seeds, or maybe the pumpkin and melon sense that they are not in soil, and are not able to grow without the soil.