

Activity Idea

Grow an Avocado from Seed

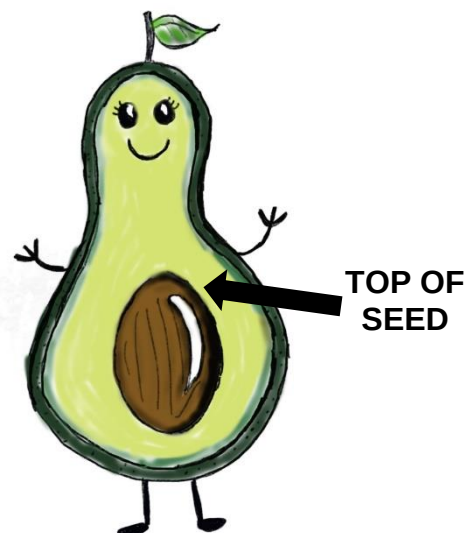
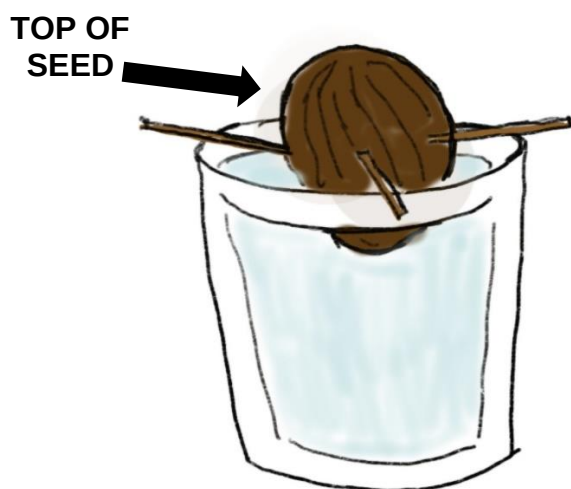
Recommended for Ages 5 – 8

What You'll Need:

An avocado seed from an opened avocado, a glass of water, three toothpicks, a flowerpot or empty coffee can, and dirt.

How to grow an avocado from a seed:

1. First take the seed from out of the avocado. Make sure you know which end is the top of the seed. It is the end closest to where the stem was.
2. Clean the avocado seed well and remove any avocado pulp from the outside of the seed. Make sure the seed is clean before continuing to the next step.



3. Fill a glass of water or mason jar up to near the top of the rim. A clear glass works best so you can see when the roots start to form.

4. Using the three toothpicks, push them into three sides of the avocado seed to balance it over the water. The top of the seed should be out of the water. Make sure that the bottom of the seed is completely covered in the water. It needs to stay wet in order to sprout roots.

5. Place your avocado near a window but not in direct sunlight. Be sure to change the water every few days. If the seed ever dries out, the seed will not begin to sprout roots and you will have to start over with a new seed.



6. Next you will patiently wait for the seed to begin to split open and taproots will start to form at the bottom of the seed. This could take a couple of weeks so be patient! It will take a couple of weeks for the seed to begin to split and then another few week for the taproots to grow.

7. A few weeks after the taproots begin to grow the stem will begin to appear at the top of the seed and will start to grow upwards. Leaves will begin to grow on the stem.



8. Once the roots are at least three inches long and the stem has grown over an inch, you will transfer the plant into a flowerpot, mason jar or coffee can. Bury the seed over halfway up with dirt. Your plant will begin to grow and flourish! Congratulations on growing an avocado plant from seed!