

FULTON FRESH KITCHEN SCIENCE

Potato in Water

Did you know Sweet Potatoes grow from vines and you can grow your own?

SAFETY FIRST! Youth should always have parent supervision when performing science experiments.

MATERIALS

- Sweet potato
- Glass jar, drinking glass, or a clear paper cup
- Toothpicks
- Water

PROCEDURE

1. Stick 3-4 toothpicks in the potato
2. Insert the potato into the glass jar. The toothpicks will hold the potato a few inches from touching the bottom of the jar
3. Add enough water so the bottom of the potato is fully sitting in water.
4. Place the jar near a window where it will get lots of sun.
5. Check the jar each day and add water to keep the bottom part of the potato wet. Entirely replace the water at least once per week.
6. In a few days, you will see the first leaves growing out of the top of the potato and vines growing at the bottom. In a couple of weeks, the leaves will turn into vines.
7. Continue watering the potato in the glass or transplant it into a pot with soil.

Visit our website or social media channels for a follow-along video of this experiment.

www.ugaextension.org/fulton

This lesson was adapted from <https://sciencing.com/seeds-fastest-science-fair-project-6064794.html>

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What do soccer players call their sweet potato fans? Speck Tators.



DID YOU KNOW?

Believe it or not, sweet potatoes are native to the tropical Americas and were first cultivated there at least 5,000 years ago (*Illinois Extension*).

LEARN MORE

Dig deeper with more gardening resources at kidsgardening.org. The website has additional gardening and growing activities, healthy recipes, screen-free learning suggestions, and gardening book recommendations for kids!

CAREER CONNECTION

This science experiment involves biology, botany, and agriculture. There are many different types of careers in these fields, such as a researcher, farmer, and horticulturists.

Share a picture of your experiment with us on social media with the hashtag [#localfoodmadefun](https://twitter.com/hashtag/localfoodmadefun).

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