



DALLAS ARBORETUM
Education

Garden STEM at Home
Plant Cuttings: Super Rooters



WE GROW MINDS, TOO.

PLANT CUTTINGS: SUPER ROOTERS



OBJECTIVE:

STUDENTS WILL LEARN ONE METHOD OF PROPAGATION - USING STEM CUTTINGS.

BACKGROUND

Propagation is any method or process that grows new plants from a variety of sources, including seeds, cuttings and other plant parts.

Seeds are typically produced as a result of sexual reproduction. As a result, the genetic makeup of the resulting seed is a recombination of the contributing plants.

Cuttings, though, are a method of vegetative reproduction. This means the new plants are a clone of the single parent that contributed the cutting.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Not all plants can be rooted in water after taking a cutting. Choose from some of the best: pothos, begonia, coleus, impatiens, African violet, creeping fig or ivy. Marigolds will also work, but not as easily (so if you choose them, try a second variety at the same time!).
2. Take a cutting, using a clean pair of scissors, knife or gardening shears, from a mature plant stem or vine.
3. Remove any lower leaves along the portion that will be submerged.
4. Place in a vase of fresh water and locate in a sunny spot.
5. Refresh water every few days.
6. As soon as roots form, you'll be able to place in fresh potting soil. Water well until established and then water as normal.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

KidsGardening.org Make New Plants and Keep the Old Activity:
<https://kidsgardening.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Make-New-Plants-and-Keep-the-Old.pdf>

Gardenista: Houseplants 101
<https://www.gardenista.com/posts/houseplants-101-how-to-propagate-cuttings-roots-leaves/>

The Sill: Plant Propagation for Beginners:
<https://www.thesill.com/blogs/diy/plant-propagation-for-beginners>

Propagating Plants: How to Create New Plants for Free by Alan Toogood; ISBN: 1465480129