



# GROW YOUR OWN APPLE TREE!

When you eat an apple, inside the core are some little black seeds.  
If you save one, you can use it to grow your own apple tree!

## YOU WILL NEED

- Apple seeds
- Kitchen paper towel
- A plastic zipper storage bag



## WHAT YOU DO

### Step 1

Fold the paper towel in half, moisten with water and place inside the plastic zipper storage bag.

### Step 2

Place the apple seeds on top of the paper towel (so they are visible through the bag) and half close the bag to allow air to circulate.

### Step 3

Lay the bag on a plate and place in the fridge for about a month, checking every so often to make sure the paper towel stays damp.

### Step 4

Once the seeds have sprouted, place in a small cup of potting soil and water every so often, using only enough water to make sure the soil is moist.



### Step 5

As the seedling grows bigger, transplant it to a larger pot and keep watering daily until it is big enough to plant in the ground.

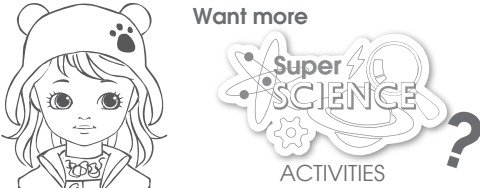
### THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

All plants start off as seeds. Inside the seed is a tiny little plant called the embryo, which is surrounded by food for it to grow. Because seeds normally start to grow after winter in the spring, you have to put the apple seeds in the fridge for a month to trick the seeds into thinking it is winter. That is why they sprout after being in the fridge for a while - because they think it will be spring soon! When the seedling sprouts from a seed it is called germination, and when the seedling has used all of the food it had in its seed it has to start making its own food. All plants make their own food using photosynthesis, which is where they use their leaves to collect energy from sunlight and carbon dioxide in the air, and they use their roots to suck up water from rainfall, and use the ingredients to make sugar and oxygen. Photosynthesis looks like this:

**carbon dioxide + water + sunlight → sugar + oxygen**

Plants use the sugar as food to grow, and so a seed as small as one you find inside an apple can one day grow to become a big apple tree. That apple tree will produce apples, and those apples will have seeds inside them that can grow to become more apple trees!

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