

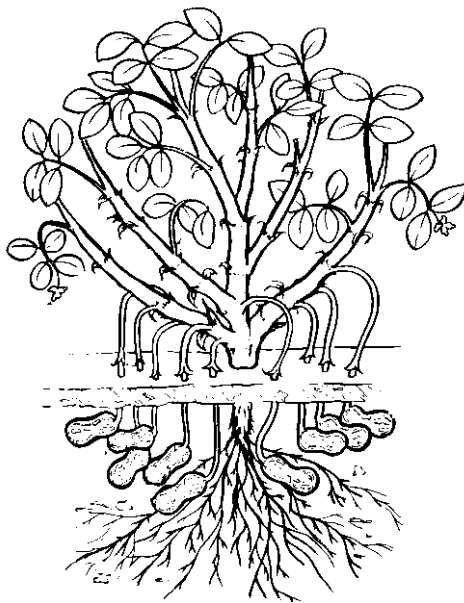
# Baby Peanut Plants

## Objective

Students will read a short text about the peanut plant and answer sequencing and comprehension questions.

## Procedures

1. Hand out copies of the “Reading Page” included with this lesson.
2. —Students will read and discuss.
3. —Hand out the comprehension questions or place them on a smart board for students to answer individually or in class discussion.



## Oklahoma Academic Standards

### GRADE 2

Speaking and Listening: R.1,2,3,4.

Reading and Writing Process:  
R.1,3. Critical Reading and Writing:  
R.5,6,7. Vocabulary: R.1,3

### GRADE 3

Speaking and Listening: R.1,2,3,4.  
Reading and Writing Process: R.1,3.  
Critical Reading and Writing: R.6,7.  
Vocabulary: R.1,3

### GRADE 4

Speaking and Listening: R.1,2,3,4.  
Reading and Writing Process: R.1,3.  
Critical Reading and Writing: R.6,7.  
Vocabulary: R.1,3

# Baby Peanut Plants

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Peanuts are not really nuts. nuts grow on trees. Peanuts are legumes, related to beans and peas. Peanuts grow underground. the peanut is the fruit of the plant. It is unusual for the fruit of a plant to grow underground, especially when the flowers grow above ground.



The peanut seed grows into a small green bush about 18 inches tall. It has delicate yellow flowers. After the flower loses its petals, the flower stalk, or peg, is pulled by gravity toward the ground. The peg grows into the ground and forms peanuts about one inch below the soil surface. It takes about four to five months for the peanut plant to grow from planting to harvest.



Oklahoma produces about 120 million pounds of peanuts. Most of Oklahoma's peanuts grow in the southwest part of the state, in Caddo, Beckham, Harmon, greer and Washita Counties.



People eat large numbers of peanuts in the form of nuts, peanut butter, candy bars and baked goods. Other peanuts are crushed to extract peanut oil. Peanut oil is usually more expensive to use in cooking than other oils. However, since it has no flavor, no cholesterol and can be heated to a higher temperature without smoking, it is used by many restaurants for frying foods. It is also used in margarine, shortening and salad oil.



Peanuts are mostly protein and oil. The meal that remains after the oil is extracted from peanuts makes an excellent feed for cattle, hogs and poultry because of the high protein content. In early days, peanuts were grown as feed. Hogs, in particular, like peanuts and will root out the nuts themselves if turned into the peanut fields. Some other names for the peanut are "groundnut," "pinder" and "goober."

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Baby Peanut Plants

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1. Number these events to place them in the correct order.

- \_\_\_ the flower loses its petals.
- \_\_\_ the peanut seed grows into a small green bush.
- \_\_\_ the peg grows into the ground and forms peanuts.
- \_\_\_ the flower stalk, or peg, is pulled by gravity toward the ground.

2. Put these words from the article into correct alphabetical order:

peanut, protein, people, petals, planting.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

3. How tall does the small green peanut bush get? (paragraph 2)

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How many pounds of peanuts are produced in Oklahoma: (paragraph 3)

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Peanut meal makes an excellent feed for cattle, hogs, and \_\_\_\_\_  
because of the high protein.

6. People eat large numbers of peanuts in the form of nuts, \_\_\_\_\_,  
candy bars and baked \_\_\_\_\_.

7. List two Oklahoma counties where peanuts are grown. (paragraph 3)

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the “peg” mentioned in paragraph 2? (Circle one)

- petals
- flower
- stalk
- soil
- gravity