

# Potty about Potatoes

**Watch the fascinating process of root growth and stem formation of a plant, as the potato grows.**

Normally we miss the opportunity to view this process when we plant things in the ground. Try this activity to see it happening from your own windowsill.

## Activity:

1. Take your potato and stick four toothpicks into the sides. If it is too large for the container cut in half.
2. Fill your container with water.
3. Rest the toothpicks on the side of the container and ensure the bottom of the potato is submerged in water.
4. Leave the potato on a windowsill and watch it grow.

## Extension:

Set up different containers and experiment with adding something different to the water; try plant food, food colouring, salt and sugar.

Experiment with different amounts of sunlight.

Try growing other plants the same way. For example; sweet potato, avocado seeds, garlic, rosemary, cut off the ends of lettuce, cabbage, cucumber, spring onions or even pineapple and place in water!

## Notes:

*Sprouts should develop in 1-2 weeks. Place on a sunny windowsill for best results.*

*Keep the water topped up to make sure the bottom stays wet.*

*Clean the water every 1-2 days to keep it fresh and clear.*

## Environmental Awareness

*Experience Awe and Wonder  
Appreciate and draw inspiration from  
the environment*

**Time:**  
10 min+

**Space:**  
Windowsill or Sheltered  
Outside

**Equipment:**  
Glass or Jam Jar, Cocktail  
Sticks x4, Small Potato.



Referenced from [www.ltl.org.uk](http://www.ltl.org.uk) and [www.royalparks.org.uk](http://www.royalparks.org.uk)