



# 101

## SIMPLE SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

with

**ATOMS**  
EDUCATION



## THIRSTY PLANTS

### You will need:

- Plant seeds - all of the same kind (try to choose fast growing seeds e.g. cress)
- Plant pots or containers
- Watering can
- Soil/compost
- Various liquids e.g. water, coffee, lemonade, cola etc.
- Sticky labels or a marker pen

### KEY QUESTIONS:

Always encourage your children to ask and attempt to answer their own questions. There are no right or wrong questions and answers. Here's some suggested questions you could use to prompt your children.

Which liquid will help the plant to grow quickest?

Which plant will be most healthy?

How tall will the plants grow?

What do plants need to survive?

How can we make the experiment a fair test?

What will need to stay the same?

How can we record our findings?

Can you predict what will happen?

**ACTIVITY TIME: OVER A  
PERIOD OF 2-3 WEEKS**

## METHOD

1. Using the same kind of container, the same compost or soil and the same seeds, plant your seeds in 5-6 containers. Allow for them to begin to shoot.
2. When your seeds have started to shoot, use sticky labels or a marker pen to label one container with water - this will be your control sample.
3. Label the other containers - each with a different liquid e.g. coffee.
4. Every couple of days, pour 50ml of the liquid onto the plant then once per week measure the growth of the seeds and record the results.
5. You can continue to monitor the growth of your seeds as long as you like or until you have found which liquid is best for growing plants.
6. After you have finished your experiment, you can evaluate your findings. Was the best liquid the one you expected? Why do you think the best liquid helped the plant to grow best? Which plant looked most healthy? Did any liquid kill the plant?

### KEY VOCABULARY:

**plant seed growth predict  
experiment monitor record  
healthy water nutrients sun  
light survive evaluate roots  
stem leaves colour compost**