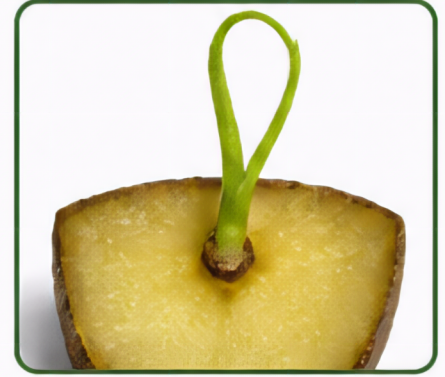


Growing a Potato from an Eye Cutting

Potatoes can grow into new plants from their "eyes".
Let's see how one eye cutting can grow!



EXPERIMENT QUESTION

Can a potato eye cutting grow into a new potato plant?



MATERIALS

- 1 potato with visible eyes
- Clean knife
- Small cup or pot (at least 3–4 inches deep)
- Potting soil
- Water
- Sunny spot
- Notebook or observation sheet



BACKGROUND

Potatoes are tubers with many "eyes." Each eye has tiny buds that can grow into a new plant under the right conditions. This is a form of asexual reproduction because the new plant grows from one part of the parent plant.



SAFETY

- Ask an adult to help when using a knife.
- Wash your hands after the experiment.



PROCEDURE

- 1 Choose a healthy potato with several visible eyes.
- 2 Using a clean knife, cut a piece of potato so it contains 1–2 eyes. Make sure each eye is on the piece.
- 3 Let the cutting dry for a few hours (or overnight) in a dry place. This helps prevent rotting.
- 4 Fill a small cup or pot with potting soil.
- 5 Plant the cutting eye-side up about 1 inch deep in the soil.
- 6 Water lightly so the soil is moist but not soggy.
- 7 Place the pot in a sunny spot and keep the soil moist.



OBSERVATIONS

Record your observations below. Draw pictures if you like!

DATE	WHAT I OBSERVED



CONCLUSION

What happened in your experiment? _____

What did you learn? _____