

# Barnardo's Big Bean Challenge!

Believe in  
children



Barnardo's

Lesson plan Age 7-11

You can fit the lesson plan in with your own timescale and schemes of work.

## **Lesson Objective:**

To grow a runner bean plant successfully.

- As a class discuss the conditions for a plant to grow.
- Introduce the task of taking home runner bean seed.
- Discuss with class the resources they will require and then demonstrate an example of how to plant the seed using everyday resources, for example clear plastic cup, kitchen roll, soil (this will become class bean).
- Discuss how to measure the bean when it breaks the surface (if soil is used).
- Introduce task of writing instructions using sheet **Planting my bean** worksheet found in **Bean survival pack**.
- Ask children to research beans using the **All about beans** worksheet and/or write a poem using **Bean poem** worksheet. (Found in **Bean survival pack**)
- Ask children to check bean everyday and tick **Bean tracker** worksheet (in **Bean survival pack**). At the end of each week, ask children to measure bean and add to graph on same sheet.
- Explain to children that they are to feed back on progress of growth of bean and keep track of class bean.

## **Success criteria:**

I know how to grow a bean successfully.

I can measure and record my results.

## **Cross curricular links/other suggestions**

**Creative writing** – poetry, bean recipes, instructions.

**ICT** – research on facts about beans (tallest, heaviest, varieties, origins). Email photos and results of progress.

**Maths** – measuring.

**Art and DT** – design a carrier bag/box/container to hold 'survival bits'/draw a picture of their bean plant.

**Science** – BBC KS2 science clip – helping plants grow well.

Downloadable resources for Barnardo's Big Bean Challenge can be found at [www.barnardos.org.uk/bigbeanchallenge](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/bigbeanchallenge)

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Teacher's Answers to  
All about beans worksheet

1. The tallest bean plant was 46 feet 3 inches (14.1metres) tall (grown by Staton Rorie, USA in 2003).
2. Other Beans include;
  - Broad Bean
  - Baked Bean
  - Soy Bean
  - Lima Bean
  - Kidney Bean
  - Velvet Bean
  - Mung Bean
  - Pinto Bean
  - Black Bean
3. Runner beans originally came from America.
4. Other names for the Runner Bean include;
  - Green Bean
  - Pole Bean
5. Runner Bean flowers can be orange, red or white.