



A Brand New Start!

Materials Needed: Bibles, pencils, student books, bag of dirt, watering can, bean sprout seedlings, Styrofoam cups, small styrofoam plate, small spoons.

**Note: It is important for you to keep the student book with you in order to read from it and follow along with the students.*

Teacher: Welcome the children to the classroom. Explain to the students that this is not meant to be like Sunday school or VBS classes. Explain the SEED acronym and ask if anyone has given his or her life to Christ. Explain that this session, as well as the others, is designed to teach the students how to grow in their walks with Jesus Christ. There should be positive and lifelong changes as a result of their learning about God and His Word.

Ready, Set, Grow!

Teacher: Instruct a student to read the material in this section. Discuss the material as a class.

Words to Know

Teacher: Explain to the students that they will be building their vocabularies; have them look for the words in the lesson. Select students to read each of the vocabulary words.

Devotion: worship in which we express our love and praise for God through songs and prayers; sharing with others what God means to us and what He has done for us.

Disciple: a follower or a student of a certain teacher or a particular teaching.

Discipline: training in order to develop self-control; using punishment to correct behavior.

Grow/Growth: a natural development by increasing in size and changing physically; progressing to maturity.

Cultivating the Ground

Teacher: Select a student to read through the introductory paragraph. Ask a student to lead the song with the class. Then select another student to lead the class in prayer.

The SEED

Teacher: Go over the SEED acronym again with the students and how it relates to the Word of God being a seed in their hearts. Briefly mention the bean sprout plants. Select a student to read the SEED verse aloud. Ask the students to explain in their own words what this verse means to them in their new walks with Christ. Next, pair off students together to practice memorizing and learning the SEED verse.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Planting the SEED



Teacher: After reading the information in this section as a class, help the students start their plant projects. Select students to pass out the materials and then give instructions for planting the SEED. Please note that the children won't get to water their seeds for another week. Make sure they make a pencil-size hole in the bottom of the cup before putting dirt in it. Place the cup on plates before watering. Keep plant away from direct heat and sunlight until it begins to sprout. Do a little research (if necessary) to make sure seeds are planted in a way for them to grow. Relate this project to how the SEED verse is planted in their hearts.

Resources for the SEED

Teacher: Select students to read the verses and paragraphs. After their reading, lead a discussion that is centered around the process of growing into maturity in Christ: how once a person admits that he or she is a sinner, then everything after that point leads to his or her knowing that Christians are dependent on Christ and must be followers of His Word.



THE ROMAN ROAD

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (**Romans 3:23**)

.....

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (**Romans 5:8**)

.....

For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus. (**Romans 6:23**)

.....

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (**Romans 10:9**)

Nurturing the SEED



Teacher: Instruct a student to read the material in this section. Allow time for the children to draw, color, and complete the activities. Inform the children about the purpose of having roots on a plant. If a computer is available, see if pictures can be found on the Internet to share with the students.

Fruit from the SEED



Teacher: Select students to read the information in this section. After their reading, lead a discussion around the positive changes mentioned.

***Growth Activity 1:** *The students will draw pictures of trees and find information on the purpose of roots, either in a dictionary/encyclopedia, or on the Internet. Assist them with their research.*

***Growth Activity 2:** *Instruct a student to read this activity aloud. Students' answers on healthy foods will vary.*

***Word Search 1**

Teacher: Allow time for the students to find the following words in the Word Search in their books: devotion, disciple, eternal, growth, love, sinners.

E	T	E	R	N	A	L	\$
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	I
D	E	V	O	T	I	O	N
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E
G	R	O	W	T	H	x	R
x	L	O	V	E	x	x	\$

Harvesting Time



Opportunities for Growth spurts, Pruning, and Maturing

Teacher: After selecting students to read the material in this section, ask each student to share what he or she has learned thus far from the Harvesting Time Sections.

Digging Deeper



Teacher:

- Instruct a student to read the Digging Deeper section. Then review the entire session with the students and encourage them to start their daily devotions with God each morning and night. Remind the children about learning their SEED verse John 3:16 for next week. Remind the children about their seedlings that they started today, and that they are doing the same with God’s Word in their hearts.*
- As students talk about why they are saved, please make sure they draw a distinction between being saved and being blessed. Some believe that because God has blessed them in some ways that that means they are saved. Salvation comes not just by being blessed, but by consciously acknowledging Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The evidence of salvation is not based on what they receive in terms of blessings but what they believe and come to know in their relationship with Jesus Christ.*

Closing

Teacher: You may select a student to read the prayer aloud, or invite a student to pray freely from his or her heart. Remember that all plants are to stay in the classroom. Let the students water their plants before leaving.

NOTES
