



## How a Seed Grows

*Helene J. Jordan, Loretta Krupinski (Illustrations)*

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**How a Seed Grows** Helene J. Jordan , Loretta Krupinski (Illustrations)

How does a tiny acorn grow into an enormous oak tree? With beautiful and accurate watercolor illustrations from Loretta Krupinski, this book by Helene Jordan traces the process of how a little seed grows into the plants and trees that surround us.

This is a Stage 1 Let's-Read-and-Find-Out, which means the book explains simple science concepts for preschoolers and kindergarteners. Let's-Read-And-Find-Out is the winner of the American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Books & Films Prize for Outstanding Science Series.

Supports the Common Core Learning Standards and Next Generation Science Standards.

## How a Seed Grows Details

Date : Published April 10th 1992 by HarperCollins (first published 1960)

ISBN : 9780064451079

Author : Helene J. Jordan , Loretta Krupinski (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 32 pages

Genre : Science, Childrens, Picture Books, Environment, Nature, Plants, Nonfiction

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## From Reader Review How a Seed Grows for online ebook

### Nicole says

How a Seed Grows is a great book about how seeds grow and what they grow into, even how to grow seeds. It provides the reader with relate-able events to help them realize the time table for a seed growth. I love that it explains how to grow a seed, what seeds grow what flowers, trees, or vegetables. It helps the reader with their success in growing their own seed. The realistic illustrations provide a proper description of a seed and its growth. It uses a chronological narrative to show the reader the steps needed for a seed to grow.

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### Amanda Andrews says

Book Title: How a Seed Grows  
by Helene J. Jordan

Short Description of the Book: Jordan explains that seeds become plants and gives examples of slow growing and fast growing seeds. She gives a description of a science experiment that children can do themselves, while teaching what plants need to survive.

Focus: Informational Features I Would Use in a Mini-Lesson

1.) Informational Text Structure, How-To: Jordan begins her story with an introduction page about seeds. She then narrows her focus by showing particular types of seeds and the plants that they will eventually grow into. The experiment section of the book is written in a how-to format. She clearly explains the steps of the experiment and guides the reader through what they should be seeing at each stage in the process. The writing mini-lessons for which I would use this book would be to emphasize that informational books have an introduction page to “hook” the reader and explain what the book will be about, as well as writing steps in a how-to format that the reader can follow and replicate. The steps are very clear and the author tells you what you should do and what the results will be. Students could use this as a guide to writing their own steps, with an emphasis on clarity of direction and use of illustrations to depict results.

2.) Informational Text Features: Jordan includes many close-up drawings of the bean plant at different stages. These “close-ups” can be seen in many informational texts. Students could be encouraged to include “close-ups” in their own how-to informational books to clearly show a piece or portion of the larger process.

Teach: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.1.7 Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., explore a number of “how-to” books on a given topic and use them to write a sequence of instructions).

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### Zoraya Brown says

I would use this book to teach children about the process of seeds transforming into plants. The activity for extension would entail providing each child in the lesson with a small styrofoam cup, 3 Lima beans, and a piece of brown paper towel. We would place the paper towel in the bottom of the cup with the seeds on top,

then allow children to water their seed by putting water in the cup. We would watch the plants grow each day and have the children draw their views of them, as well as discuss what is happening with the plant. I have seen this done in the current classroom that I am in, however they don't do any activities with the seeds, aside from watch them grow. I will implement creativity with the growing of the plant.

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### **Madison Woodmansee says**

How a Seed Grows by Helene J. Jordan is a young informational text for mostly kindergarten and preschoolers. The reason it is for new readers is because it teaches the basic concepts. The book is about how a small seed grows into a big oak tree. It shows how we get the beautiful plants that surround our world.

This book touches on the science behind how a seed grows. However, it puts into basic terms for young readers to be engaged and interested. Making it easy for them to understand how it works in a simple way. The book does a good job with their illustrations. It contains very vibrant water colored pictures to go with the text to keep bring the book to life. I highly recommend this book for young readers because it is a good starter to introduce informational text to beginner readers. It also keeps them engaged while they are also learning something new. This is a great new way to get kids learning without them even knowing they are learning.

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### **Lizzy says**

This book describes a science experiment in which children take an acorn and watch as it grows into a tree. It does a good job of describing the stages of growth, and would be a good way to inspire a unit about plants! I think it could have done a better job explaining what is happening as the seed is growing and why, rather than what the child is seeing as it grows. It would be a good start to a project, if other books involved in the unit explained more of the why.

Theme: Plants

Topic: Science- life cycles

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### **John Moore says**

How a Seed Grows, Helene J. Jordan

Grade Level: K-2

Topic: Plants and seed growth

Description: This book is great for helping young children learn how a seed grows into a plant or tree. It uses kid friendly language and terms but also provides an easy experiment in steps at the end where kids can grow their own plant with the help of an adult.

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### **Selina says**

This book tells how planting seeds becomes the plants and trees around us. This simple story gives children an idea on how the environment is made up. This opens opportunity for discussion about different kinds of

plants and trees, or even a hands on project allowing children to plant their own seeds.

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### **Melissa Namba says**

An excellent book to read and experiment with. I would say ages 3-4 is appropriate to go through. It takes you step by step through the process of the growth of a bean sprout. And its something you could do with a very young child.

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### **Lisa Dominick says**

How a Seed Grows by Helene J. Jordan is a nonfiction picture book intended for readers in grades pre-k to second grade. The book is part of the series, Let's-Read-and-Find-Out, that won the 2010 American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Books & Films Prize for Outstanding Science Series. This level 1 book offers introductory science concepts to how seeds grow and how young readers to plant a garden. I gave the book a 4-star rating because of the language, step-by-step instructions and illustrations. The author used simple language that young readers will be able to understand or read on their own. Definitions were provided for some words that may be unfamiliar to young readers. It would have been nice to see some facts about what a pole or bush bean was as well as why certain steps were required such as the need to place the seed in an egg shell. The step-by-step instructions were easily understood and offered color illustrations that will appeal to young readers. Furthermore, the science exploration provided in the step-by-step instructions would also be helpful to teachers as they help develop science concepts for students. I cannot wait for March so that I can follow the easy step-by-step instructions myself.

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### **Calie Youmans says**

How a Seed Grow shows the process of how a little seed grows into the plants and trees that are all around us.

This is a Stage 1 Let's-Read-and-Find-Out, which means the book explains simple science concepts for preschoolers and kindergarteners. It is also the winner of the American Association for the Advancement of Science/Subaru Science Books & Films Prize for Outstanding Science Series.

How a Seed Grows would be great when discussing common core standards on explaining how plants and trees grow. I could read this book as a launch to the lesson and then show each page as an example for each step of the process.

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### **Joseph Sarandrea says**

In the short informational picture book How A Seed Grows, Helene J. Jordan writes a story of an acorn and how it becomes a tree. With the help of Joseph Low's illustrations, children can read about and understand the process of a seeds growth.

The illustrations in this book, although very creative, are a bit odd. With some pages in black and white and other in color, the drawings are inconsistent and somewhat confusing. They do their job of illustrating the text, but do not exceed expectations or stand out for any positive reason.

The textual information, however, is very informative and not only catches the readers attention, but holds onto it all throughout the story. Jordan ends this book with step-by-step instructions of how to plant your own acorn seed, giving children a chance to see the book come to life.

How A Seed Grows is a great way to teach children how trees are created and grow.

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### **SaraKat says**

Well, this book showed how a seed turns into a plant in a basic way. Most of the book shows how to do an experiment to seeds growing, but I don't think that the experiment as shown is the best way to see a seed grow. Instead of digging up some of the seedlings and killing them, why not grow them in a clear container so that we can see them with no problems? The illustrations are cute and it is appropriate to teach young children about seeds.

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### **Evelyn Matias says**

This is a great book to use in with your first graders when introducing a lesson on seeds and plants. It gives a great list of things that come from seeds and also pictures of different kinds of seeds and where they come from. It also allows for your students to make the text to outside connection. It also gives a little experiment on growing a bean plant from a bean seed. It's a neat simply put book that a first grader can easily understand.

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### **Chynna Cowan says**

This is a wonderful book. It can be used in the classroom during a science lesson on plants and sunlight and water and how plants grow. Students, especially young students, love to see how things like this happen and will be interested in a book like this.

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### **Kirah Marshall says**

1. This informational book walks the reader through the steps of seeds and seed growth. It identifies all kinds of seeds, like beans, oak tree seeds (acorns), and more. Then it sets forth an experiment that takes you step by step of how the plant grows. Its example is a bean plant because bean plants grow fast. It talks about what plants need to grow and how to take care of them. It is beautifully illustrated and shows the step by step stages of seed growth!
2. This would be good for grades pre-k- 2nd. It is an easy read.
3. This would be a great book to read when doing a science lesson about plants and plant growth as well as

plant parts. You could read the first half of the book then actually participate in the seed growing experiment with your class and read it a page a day as it corresponds to your classes growing plant.

4. Students who like learning about nature would like this as well as students who are interested in agriculture.

5. This book would work in small groups. You could have the students predict how long it will take the seed to grow. You could have them draw the stages of seed growth as well.

6. This book would be fun to do as a read aloud especially if you have your class plant bean seeds and watch them grow as you progress through the book.

7. Related books are From Tadpole to Frog, My Five Senses, and From Caterpillar to Butterfly.

8. This book comes in ebook/kindle version.

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