

Seeds on the Go

Objectives:

Students will!

- Learn how and why seeds travel
- Engage in a read-aloud of Eric Carle's, *The Tiny Seed*

Educator Notes

- Before new plants can grow, adult plants need to release seeds
- Plants release seeds to survive
- If seeds fell directly next to their parent plants they would be too crowded (without enough water and light) to grow properly
- Seeds travel in different ways: they stick (burrs); they fly (oak, dandelion); they float (coconut); they are eaten by birds/animals (apples, nuts)
- Not all seeds become new plants – only seeds that have the right environment and ingredients grow

Materials:

- A copy of *The Tiny Seed*, by Eric Carle

Preparation:

- Obtain a copy of *The Tiny Seed*, by Eric Carle.

Key Vocabulary:

travel/transportation | survival

Activity:

Begin the lesson by asking students, why do plants release seeds? How and why do seeds travel? Following a brief conversation, explain that in order for new plants to grow, adult plants release seeds that travel to new locations in various ways. Introduce the different modes of seed travel – stick, fly, float, and eat – listed under Educator Notes. Then read Eric Carle's, *The Tiny Seed*, to the class.

Wrap-Up:

To close the activity, go around to the class and ask each student what his/her favorite part of the story was and why.

Extension Activity (K-5):

After reading *The Tiny Seed* as a class, ask K-3 students to draw the sequence of events that occurred in the book. Students in grades 4 and 5 can write a paragraph explaining what they learned about the seed-plant life cycle and seed dispersal.

Sources:

<http://www.eric-carle.com/bb-seed.html>