Title: From Seed to Plant
Grade Levels: K-5
Connections to the Big Ideas of Sustainability: Cycles, Diversity, Change Over Time

Lesson Summary:
Children will explore the life cycle of a seed through observation and exploration. They will learn how seeds transform into plants and what is essential for them to grow. Using inquiry, children will document the transformation from seed to plant and identify the stages over time.

Children’s literature book connection:
Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt by Kate Messner
From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons
A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston
The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle

Materials Needed:
- mason jars or plastic cups
- soil
- small rocks
- pebbles or sand
- something to label your jar
- herb or flower seeds
- science notebook for documentation

The Lesson:
Children will investigate seeds at home through inquiry and exploration.

During the activity:
Children will make daily observations about the growth of the seed over time. These observations can be added to a science notebook and include a drawing or model of what they see. Consider these questions: What do they see? How has the seed changed? Is the experiment working? If not, what can they do to promote growth?

Activity Directions:
1. Follow the set up as noted on the next page.
2. Keep jars near a spot to ensure sunlight.
3. Water occasionally to keep soil moist.
4. Record and draw daily observations.

Post Activity:
If the seeds turned into plants, how can you use the plant? Can you eat it? How can you use the plant to cook or prepare a meal at home? Document your ingredients from prep to consumption.

Reflection:
- What did you learn about the life cycle of a seed?
- What animals consume seeds as part of their daily diet?
- What is your favorite fruit or vegetable and why?
From Seed to Plant

Materials (as pictured below) were provided by Mason Herb Garden at mymakerskit.com.

STEP 1: LAYER THE BOTTOM OF THE JAR OR CUP WITH SMALL PEBBLES OR SAND

STEP 2: NEXT LAYER WITH SMALL ROCKS

STEP 3: NEXT LAYER WITH SOIL (~2 INCHES).

STEP 4: PLANT SEEDS INTO JARs AND LABEL ACCORDINGLY.
STEP 5: MOVE THE JARS NEAR A WINDOW TO ENSURE SUNLIGHT AND SPRAY THE SOIL WITH WATER