

ELINOR WONDERS WHY

EW121 INTERSTITIAL: MZ. MOLE STORY TIME: GROW LIKE THE WIND

Written by

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Follows 141 "Zig Zag Plant"

Curriculum: Different plants grow at different speeds. The kids learn that the fastest growing plant (a type of bamboo) can grow up to 35 inches per day, while the world's slowest growing plants (like the saguaro cactus) may grow less than an inch per year.

Learning Goals: LS8: There are many different kinds of living things and they may be similar or different

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Ari and Elinor are surprised to find Mz. Mole laying on the ground and staring closely at the dirt in the school garden bed.

2 ELINOR 2
(giggling)
Mz. Mole? Who are you talking to?

The children look at the garden bed, but there is nothing there but dirt.

5 MZ. MOLE 5
Some plants can grow quicker than
you might think. Look here.

Mz. Mole sits up and pulls out her pop up book. She opens the pages, to reveal...

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POP-UP BOOK STYLE of animation depicts Kiki's kitchen table near a window. A small potted cactus and a small potted bamboo plant sit on the table. They are the same height, already young plants (not starting as seeds). Sunlight comes through the window at an angle. Kiki enters the scene holding a small watering can and briefly waters both plants. A cereal box and bowl of cereal sit on the table. Then she sits down at the table and eats breakfast. The cactus sits to her left, the bamboo to her right.

6 MZ. MOLE (V.O.) 6

All plants need water and sunlight
to grow. Some plants grow slowly,
and some plants grow quickly. A
cactus like this one...

(she indicates with her
finger)

might grow very slowly, while
bamboo plants like this one

(MORE)

3. EXT. SCHOOL GARDEN - DAY

BACK AT: The school garden. Mz. Mole closes the book.

15 MZ. MOLE 15
 35 inches is as tall as you, Ari!

16 ARI 16
 Wow! But the cactus is still small.

17 MZ. MOLE 17
 It's growing, but so slowly it's
 hard to see. Some cactus take a
 year to grow one inch.

Mz Mole indicates one inch with her fingers.

18 ARI 18
 That's really slow! If I could be a
 plant, I'd want to be bamboo. Then
 I'd be a giant in no time!

They all laugh. Something on the ground catches Elinor's eye.
A tiny green sprout is peeking out of the dirt.

19 ELINOR 19
 Look Mz. Mole! The garden is
 growing!

20 MZ. MOLE 20
 Ooh! I wonder how big it will get.
 There's only one way to find out!

The three of them lay down on the ground around the tiny
sprout and watch it closely.

21 ARI 21
 If this is going to take a while,
 I'm going to need a snack.

Everyone <SFX: LAUGHS>.

THE END.