

Growing and Harvesting Your Radishes

**Review: Seeds need soil, air, water and sunlight to grow into a plant.
Follow these easy steps and enjoy your radishes in just 3 weeks.**



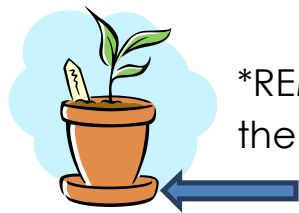
1

Place the pots of radish seeds in full sun or a sunny window. Grow lights work well, too.



2

Saturate the soil, then water the pots once a day using a spray bottle to mist the plants to keep the soil moist, but not wet. It's okay to skip the weekends.



REMEMBER to place a tray or saucer under the pots if they are indoors to catch excess water.

3

In about 1 week, the seeds will begin to sprout. Continue misting each day to keep the soil moist.



If many seedlings have sprouted close together in one pot, carefully remove all but one sprout. This will allow radishes to grow larger and the sprouts may be eaten! How does the flavor of a radish sprout compare to a full grown radish?

4

In about 3 weeks, the full grown radishes will be ready to eat.



Want to grow more seeds in your classroom? Follow these simple steps.

1. Use pots with drainage holes to allow water to escape and air to circulate.
2. Use potting soil rather than dirt from the ground. Potting soil does not contain dirt and allows proper drainage and air circulation around the root system.
3. Fill each pot $\frac{3}{4}$ full of potting soil.
4. Water the soil well before planting the seed.
5. If the seeds are very small, place 3-5 seeds on top of the soil, then sprinkle a light dusting of potting soil over the top of the seeds. If the seeds are larger, say the size of a sunflower seed, place the seed on top of the soil, then have each student gently push the seed into the soil with their finger, just to the bottom of their fingernail.
6. Place the pots outdoors or in a sunny window.
7. Water the seeds with a spray bottle every day.
8. See the back of the seed package for days to germination and days to harvest.

Many seeds germinate quickly but must grow several months before harvesting.

Seed	Days to germination	Days to harvest
Carrots	21 days	75 days
Sunflowers	14 days	80 – 120 days
Beans	10 days	58 days
Lettuce	10 days	50 days
Tomatoes	14 days	85 days
Nasturtiums	10 days	35 days
Cucumber	10 days	60 days
Basil	10 days	40 days

Fun activities:

- Save some seeds, then compare the size of the small seed to the size of the full grown plant.
- Grow several different types of seeds and compare the different shapes of leaves.
- Make seed paper to give as a Mother's Day gift.
- Make seed tape to plant in the garden.
- Plant sunflower seeds outdoors and watch how many different birds eat the sunflowers seeds.