

CUTTING AND POTTING

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You will need:

- a suitable plant. (Ask your teacher about this.)
- scissors.
- damp sand.
- a glass jar.
- a plastic bag.
- a rubber band.

1 Cutting a Cutting

A cutting is a piece cut off another plant. You can grow a new plant from a cutting.

1

- Look at this diagram. It shows how to take a cutting.
- Cut off a piece of stem with 1 or 2 leaves.

2

- Your cutting will look something like this:

2 Growing the Cutting

3

- Put some damp sand in the glass jar.

4

- Write the plant's name, your name, and the date on the label.
- Stick the label on the jar.

5

- With a pencil, make a hole in the sand, close to the side of the jar.
- Put your cutting into this hole and press down the sand.

6

- Put a plastic bag over the cutting. Use a rubber band to hold the bag on the jar.
- The plastic bag will help keep the sand damp. Can you see why?

In your book:

- ➔ Write the heading: PLANTS FROM CUTTINGS.
- ➔ Draw a diagram of your cutting in the jar.
- ➔ Write down what you have done.

GROW MORE PLANTS

Ask your teacher:

- for names of other plants you could grow from cuttings.
- about potting mix.

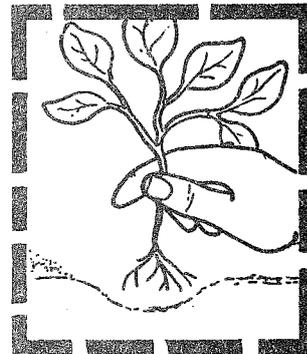
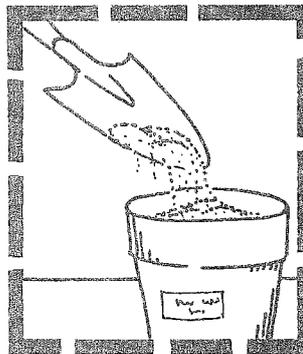
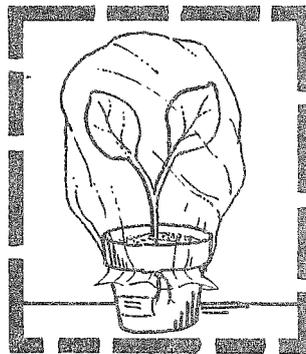
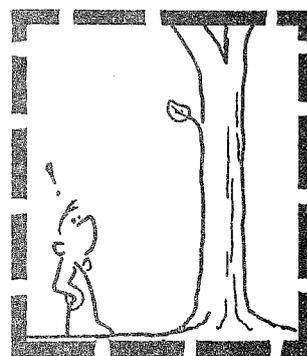
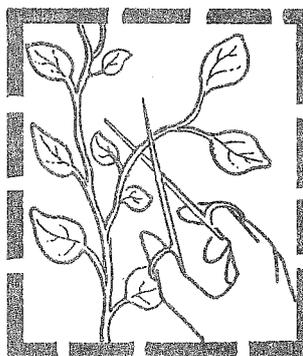
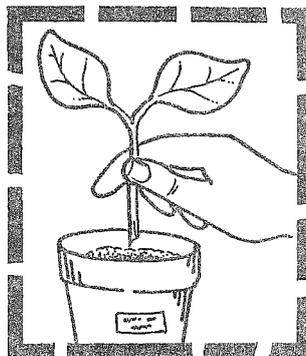
3 Potting on the Cutting

7

- Leave your cutting in a warm and sunny place.
- After 1 or 2 weeks you should be able to see roots. You can then take your cutting home and plant it in the garden or in a larger pot. Take care of the new roots when you shift your plant.

**CUTTING AND POTTING
CHECK-TEST**

- ➔ Cut out these 6 drawings and put them in the right order.
- ➔ Glue the drawings into your book and join them with arrows.



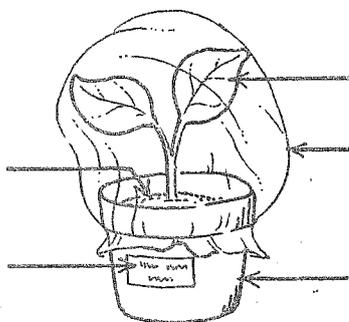
Cut this out and glue it into your book as well.

YOUR RATING

**CUTTING AND POTTING
CHECK-TEST**

NAME _____

Here is a drawing a student made of a cutting in a jar:



- ➔ Write in the 5 missing labels.
- ➔ Now answer these questions:

● Why was a plastic bag put over the cutting?

● Name a plant that can be grown from a cutting.

These are the 3 steps for growing a plant from a cutting.



POTTING ON THE CUTTING

CUTTING A CUTTING

GROWING A CUTTING

- ➔ Write out the steps in the correct order.

STEP 1 _____

STEP 2 _____

STEP 3 _____

YOUR RATING

CUTTING AND POTTING

BB-05-3



CUTLASS ACTIVITY SHEET
TEACHERS' GUIDE

AIM OF ACTIVITY SHEET

To show students how to grow a plant from a cutting.

(A BASIC SHEET)

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity sheet, students should be able to:

- take a plant cutting.
- grow a plant from a cutting.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

The materials required are listed on the Activity Sheet.

The following additional information may be useful:

- Suitable plants include:
 - Geranium.
 - Coleus.
 - Ivy.
 - Carnation.
 - Kumara.
 - Impatiens. (Busy Lizzie)
 - Tradescantia. (Wandering Jew)
- The sand should be salt-free river sand; not beach sand.

RESOURCES

- Gardening books. (Most public libraries will have a good selection.)
- Visual Prod Unit filmstrip:
 - Vegetative reproduction in plants. (70/115)

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Let students keep the plants they grow.

EXTENSION WORK SUGGESTIONS

- Try growing other plants from cuttings.
- Set up a display of pot plants that students have propagated.
- Students exchange pot plants with each other.
- Try other methods of propagation
 - eg Leaf cuttings (African violets and Coleus).
 - Corms, bulbs and tubers.
 - Layering.
- Discuss advantages of cuttings and other vegetative methods of propagation, over growing plants from seed.
- Students could try some simple grafting techniques.
 - eg Grow 2 tomato seedlings side by side.
 - Scratch through the surface of each stem and bind them together with sellotape.
 - Once the graft has taken, one plant can be topped so remainder has an extra root system (a type of supertom).
 - Try grafting different varieties of tomatoes on different root stocks.
 - Try grafting tomato onto a potato root.