

Seed Travels

How to do it:

Introduce the greeting: “Many plants depend upon animals to spread their seeds. Today, we’re going to mix and mingle, giving people a friendly greeting and handshake. If you get the seed, pass it to the person whose hand you shake. Let’s see how far this seed can go!” Model as needed.

- 1 Students greet as many people as they can in one or two minutes.
- 2 Reinforce students’ friendliness: “Everyone remembered to pass the seed, so many people had a chance to transfer it.”
- 3 At the end of the greeting, students stay standing. Ask students to raise their hand if they held the seed during the greeting.
- 4 Ask students to briefly reflect on the interaction of animals, seeds, and plants in nature: “What do you think happens when animals pick up and drop seeds in their environments?”

VARIATION

- Use this as an activity. Have a student hide the seed while others close their eyes. When students open their eyes, they ask the hider yes-or-no questions to find the seed.

EXTENDING THE SCIENCE LEARNING AFTER MORNING MEETING

- Have students draw and label the path seeds might travel, including the animals that might spread them.

Science Content:

Seeds and plants, interdependence of organisms

Disciplinary Core Ideas:

Life Sciences—ecosystems (interactions, energy, and dynamics)

Science & Engineering Practices:

Developing and using models; obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

Crosscutting Concepts:

Systems and system models

Materials Needed:

Seed

Vocabulary:

Seed, ecosystem, transfer