



# Is salt water or fresh water better for my plants?

In the *Waterford Early Math and Science*<sup>TM</sup> What Plants Need Experiment, your child learned that plants need sunlight and water to grow. Plants need room for the roots to grow and spread, and they need good soil.

## What You Need



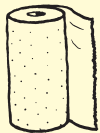
Salt



Water



Two pie plates



Paper towels



Seeds, such as lettuce, radish, or mustard seeds



My Home Science Journal

## ① Make a Hypothesis

Before you begin the experiment, predict what you think will happen. Draw a picture of your prediction on your My Home Science Journal page.

## ② Do an Experiment

Put one paper towel in each pie plate. Sprinkle the seeds over the paper towel. Place another paper towel over the seeds. Mix two teaspoons of salt with each cup of water. Make enough salt water to water one set of seeds. Water one set of seeds with fresh water and the other with salt water. Be sure to lift the paper towel and pour the water directly on the seeds. Water just enough to dampen the paper towel. Water the seeds daily. Record results after seven days. Draw a picture of your experiment on your My Home Science Journal page.

## ③ Draw a Conclusion

Did the seeds grow better in salt water or fresh water? Draw a picture of what happened on your My Home Science Journal page.

## More Ideas to Try

*Use the scientific method to answer one of the following questions:* Do plants grow better under a certain color of light? Drape the pie plates with different colors of plastic wrap. How do other liquids affect plant growth?