# GARDEN ACTIVI



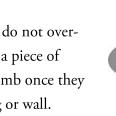
CHALLENGE YOUR CLASS TO A BEAN RACE!

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Rinse the cardboard cartons with soap and water. Carefully cut an oval in one side of each carton.
- Fill the carton 3/4 full with potting soil. Write the type of bean (example: GROUP LIMA) and the names of four students on the side of the carton.
- Space four beans evenly apart inside the carton. Have each student push one bean into the soil to a depth of 1/2 to 1 inch. NOTE: As a rule of thumb seeds should be planted twice the depth of the seed size.



- Class set of mixed dried beans (kidney, lima, bush beans or pole beans)
- Five cardboard juice cartons
- Scissors and sharpie pen
- Cotton string or yarn
- Potting soil mix



Water the beans every two to three days. Keep the soil damp, but do not over-**4** • water the plants. It's okay to let the soil dry out a little bit. Staple a piece of string to the edge of the carton so the beans have something to climb once they start to grow. Use a thumb tack to attach the strings to the ceiling or wall.

## More Ideas

Use the Bean Race Data Sheet to monitor the growth rate of the different bean plants. See which BEAN wins the race and grows the fastest, tallest or produces the most beans.



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# Bean Race Data Sheet



Use this sheet to monitor the growth rate of your bean plants. Each week measure the height of the plants, count the number of leaves, watch for the first flower and see whose plant grows the first bean!

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
HEIGHT				
LEAVES				
FLOWERS				
BEANS				





### WINNING CATEGORIES

TALLEST PLANT MOST LEAVES 1ST BEAN

1ST FLOWER MOST FLOWERS MOST BEANS

