

LER 6045
Ages 5+ | Grades K+



Giant Magnetic Plant Life Cycles

Make your whiteboard come alive with science!



12-Piece set includes:

- Bean Life Cycle
- Seed with root
- Emerging seedling
- Seedling
- Young plant
- Mature plant
- Bean pod
- Apple Life Cycle
- Apple seed
- Seedling
- Tree
- Bud
- Flower
- Apple

Instruct *and* decorate with giant, colorful magnets that teach the life cycles of two plants!

Care Instructions

Write on magnets with a dry- or wet-erase marker for multiple uses. Test your marker on the corner of a magnet to make sure marks erase. Erase wet-erase marks with a damp cloth. Do not saturate the magnets. Too much water will damage the product. Do not bend the magnets as this will decrease their magnetism.

Plant Life Cycle Facts and Key Vocabulary

Many living things go through several stages before fully developing. The same sequence of stages starts again with the next generation and is known as the life cycle. After starting as seeds, both beans and apples change and grow before reaching maturity.

The stages of a bean's life cycle include the **seed**, **stem**, **seedling**, and **plant**. The stages of an apple's life cycle include the **seed**, **seedling**, **tree**, **bud**, **flower**, and **fruit**. This set of magnets shows the transformation throughout the stages.

The illustrations in this set are based on the development of a red kidney bean and an apple.

Bean Seed

Seeds contain tiny plants and stored food, and are protected by a seed coat. When seeds receive water, sunlight, and air, roots grow from them into the soil. From these roots, a stem forms and begins to grow toward the soil's surface.

Bean Stem

The stem is the main body of the bean. As the stem breaks through the soil, or sprouts, buds and leaves begin to form. The leaves are very important to the life of a bean plant because they help the plant make its own food to survive.

Bean Seedling

The stem becomes a seedling when leaves appear. In this stage, the seedling is developing into a mature plant, no longer dependent on the seed for energy. Pods containing small beans begin to form.

Bean Plant

Pods grow near the leaves of the bean plant. The small beans within the pods are actually the seeds of the plant. The cycle of life can begin once more.

Apple Seed

Apple seeds are found within apples (similar to how mature bean plants carry the seeds within their pods). Seeds need consistent moisture for up to several months in order to germinate and eventually grow into seedlings.

Apple Seedling

The seedling is the early form of the apple tree, bearing a stem and leaves. The seedling sprouts from the soil after receiving sufficient sunlight, water, and warmth.

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- Bean plants are very popular for planting in home gardens, second only to the tomato as the most-grown domestic vegetable in the world.
- There are over 7,000 different kinds of apples grown throughout the world.
- To get the most health benefits from an apple (and keep the doctor away), eat it with the skin on—the skin contains most of the fiber and antioxidants.
- The average person eats 65 apples every year.
- The largest apple ever picked was over three pounds!

Apple Tree

An apple seedling becomes a tree when it forms one large stem, called a trunk. Over time, branches grow from the trunk and are covered by leaves. Apple trees typically grow strongest in climates where they can get constant sunlight every day.

Apple Bud

Apple buds are small stems that grow from the trunk of an apple tree, connect to the leaves and eventually blossom into flowers.

Apple Flower

Small flowers, usually of pink or white, bloom on the buds when the tree is ready to bear fruit. The flowers are pollinated by insects that carry the pollen from one apple tree to another. After pollination, the flowers fall off to make room for the apples.

Apple Fruit

Apples replace the flowers, forming the part of the bud that is visible on the tree. When an apple falls from the tree and decomposes, the seeds remain to ensure the life cycle continues.

Key Vocabulary

bud the fourth stage in an apple's life cycle; a small stem that grows from the trunk of an apple tree and provides the base for the flower and the apple

flower the fifth stage in an apple's life cycle; usually pink or white, flowers grow on the buds of the trees and drop off after pollination, to be replaced by apples

fruit the final stage of an apple's life cycle; an edible plant

leaf the part of a plant that grows on the stem after sprouting from the soil

plant a tree, shrub, herb, or vine featuring leaves and stems, that gets energy from sunlight through a process called photosynthesis; the fourth stage in a bean's life cycle in which pods grow on the leaves

radicle the root of a seedling, which is an early, younger version of a bean plant or apple tree

root the wiry extension of a plant that grows underground from a seed and creates the base for an apple tree or bean plant

seed the first stage in an apple or bean's life cycle; a seed contains an embryo that develops into a plant

stem the second stage in a bean's life cycle; the main part of a bean plant that carries the leaves and pods, and the part of an apple tree that forms the trunk

Fun Bean & Apple Facts

- Kidney beans get their name from their resemblance to a human kidney.
- Bean plants cannot grow in cold weather, so make sure to plant them in spring or summer.

