

apple life cycle

SENSORY BIN ACTIVITY



Lavinia Pop

APPLE SENSORY BINS

APPLE LIFE CYCLE



APPLE TREE LIFE CYCLE

PUT THE STAGES IN ORDER.

1 FIRST	2 SECOND	3 THIRD
 SEED	 SPROUT	 SEEDLING
4 FOURTH	5 FIFTH	6 LAST
 YOUNG TREE	 BLOSSOMS	 APPLES

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ILLUSTRATIONS Kari Bolt, Little Red, Dancing Crayon Designs, Whimsy Clips, PartyHead Graphics, Ramona Majdis, Zip-a-Dee-doo-dah-Designs, Bunny on a Cloud, Krista Wallden - Creative Clips, Creating4 the Classroom, Rainbow Sprinkle Studio - Sasha Mitten, First Class Clipart, ClipArtisan, Muggy Studio

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PRINTING TIP This resource is designed for US Letter paper. Print at Actual Size or 100% to preserve the intended card and mat dimensions. If printing on another paper size, select Fit or Shrink to Printable Area and use the same scaling setting for all related pages.

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Apple Tree Life Cycle

Explore how an apple tree grows through playful sensory discovery! Children search the sensory bin for picture cards, name each stage, and arrange the cards on the sequencing mat.

This hands-on activity introduces early science concepts while developing sequencing, observation, vocabulary, and fine motor skills.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Apple tree life cycle poster
- 6 oval life cycle picture cards: seed, sprout, seedling, young tree, blossoms, and apples
- Six-stage sequencing mat
- Teacher directions
- Visual how to play guide
- 3 additional ways to play
- Sensory bin setup and safety guide
- Storage label

HOW TO PLAY

1. Review the poster and name the six stages.
2. Find a picture card in the sensory bin.
3. Name the stage and place it in the correct space on the sequencing mat.
4. Continue until all six stages are in order.
5. Describe the sequence using first, next, then, and last.

MORE WAYS TO PLAY

- Apple Seed Investigation: Observe an apple cut open by an adult. Use a magnifying glass to examine the seeds, match a seed to the seed card, and talk about what happens next.
- Which Stage Is Missing? Arrange the six cards in order. Have children close their eyes while you remove one. Ask them to identify the missing stage and return it to its place.
- Act Out the Life Cycle: Choose a movement for each stage. Curl up like a seed, stretch like a sprout, and continue acting out the sequence from seed to apples.

SKILLS PRACTICED

- Understanding a simple plant life cycle
- Sequencing six stages
- Developing science vocabulary
- Observing and describing pictures
- Visual discrimination
- Using sequence words
- Following visual directions
- Fine motor coordination

PERFECT FOR

- Preschool, pre-K, and kindergarten science centers
- Apple and fall themes
- Plant and life cycle investigations
- Sensory bin activities
- Small group learning
- Morning tubs
- Homeschool activities

PREPARATION

Print the poster, picture cards, and sequencing mat on cardstock. Laminate for durability, if desired, and cut out the six oval picture cards.

Place the cards in a shallow sensory bin with a suitable filler, leaving some partly visible. Set the poster and sequencing mat beside the bin. Add optional child-safe tweezers or tongs.

Use the poster as a visual guide while children learn the sequence. For a challenge, remove the poster and invite children to order and describe the stages independently.

Adult supervision is required when using sensory fillers and small pieces.

Happy Teaching :)

Sensory Bin Setup & Safety

Sensory bins provide engaging opportunities for hands-on learning, but all materials should be selected and used with the needs of your learners in mind.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Print the required pages on cardstock.
- Cut out the activity pieces and laminate them for durability, if desired.
- Choose a shallow tray or sensory bin that allows children to reach the materials comfortably.
- Add a sensory filler appropriate for your learners.
- Place the printable pieces throughout the filler. Some pieces can remain partly visible to encourage searching and discovery.
- Add child-safe tweezers, tongs or scoops when appropriate.

SAFETY INFORMATION

- Adult supervision is required at all times.
- These activities include small loose parts that may present a choking hazard.
- Not intended for children under 3 years of age.
- Do not use with children who mouth classroom materials.
- Check all materials for allergies and sensory sensitivities before use.
- Choose fillers and tools that are appropriate for the age, abilities and needs of your learners.
- Inspect the materials before each use and remove any damaged pieces.
- The supervising adult is responsible for determining whether each material is suitable for the children using it.

CHOOSING A FILLER

Possible fillers include pom-poms, shredded paper, dry pasta, cereal, oats or other classroom-safe materials. Consider the age of your learners, allergies, sensory preferences and classroom policies when selecting a filler.

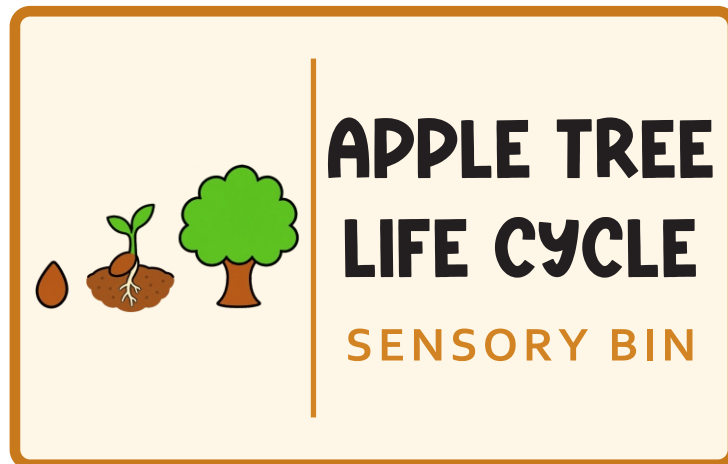
Sensory fillers, containers, tools and loose parts are not included with this printable resource.

STORAGE AND CARE

- Store each activity in a separate labeled bag or container.
- Keep all printable pieces and teacher directions together.
- Count the pieces before and after use.
- Wipe laminated pieces clean with a slightly damp cloth.
- Allow all materials to dry completely before storing them.
- Replace any pieces that become damaged, torn or difficult to clean.

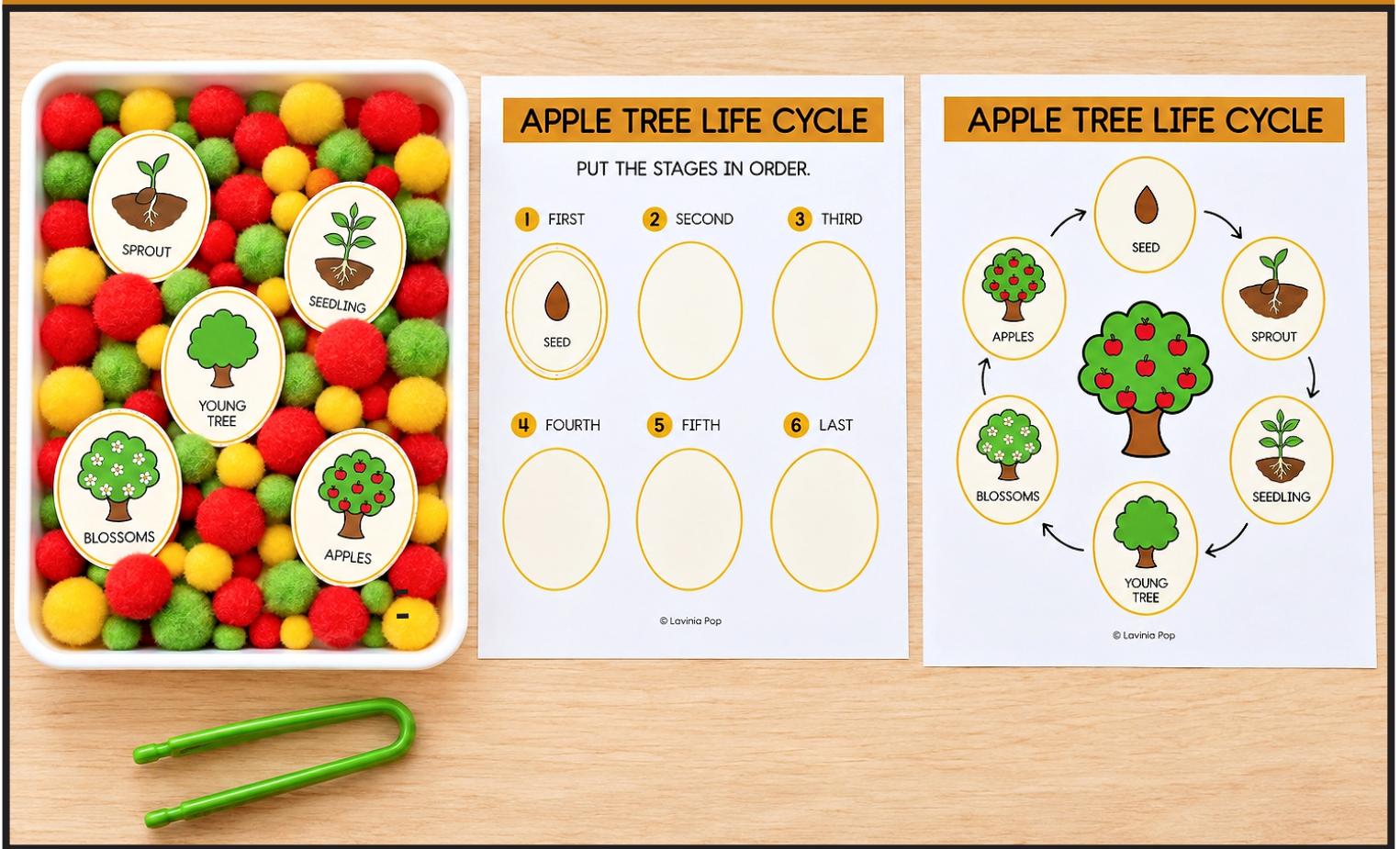
Happy Teaching!

STORAGE LABEL



APPLE TREE LIFE CYCLE

Teacher Directions



YOU WILL NEED

- Apple tree life cycle poster
- Life cycle picture cards
- Six-stage sequencing mat
- Sensory bin and pom-poms
- Optional tweezers or tongs

PREPARATION

1. Print the poster, picture cards, and sequencing mat on cardstock.
2. Laminate for durability.
3. Cut apart the six life-cycle picture cards.
4. Add the picture cards to the sensory bin.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Review the life cycle poster.
2. Find and name a picture card.
3. Place it in the correct space.
4. Continue until all six stages are in order.

DIFFERENTIATION

Use the poster as a visual guide. For a challenge, remove it and have children sequence and describe all six stages independently.

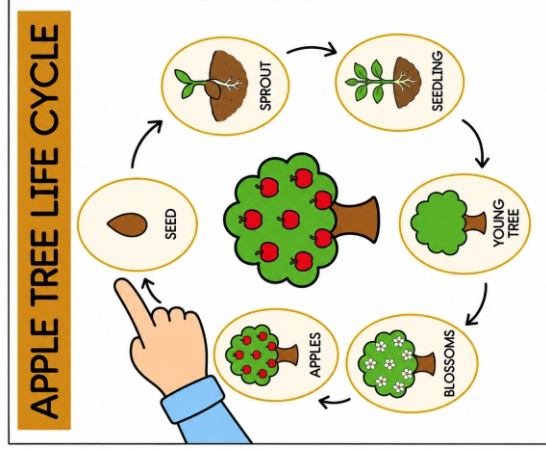
LEARNING FOCUS

Life cycles • Sequencing • Science vocabulary •
Observation • Fine motor skills

APPLE TREE LIFE CYCLE

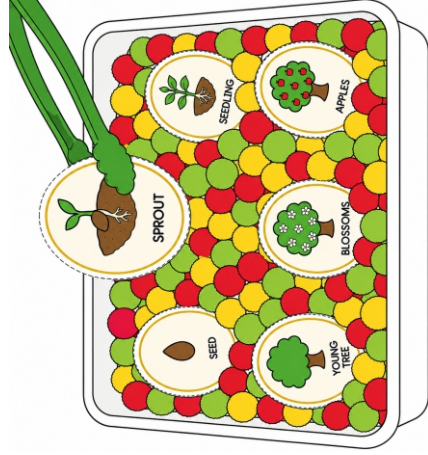
How To Play

1



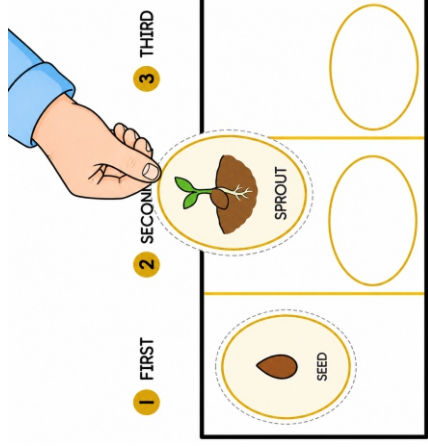
Review the life cycle poster.

2



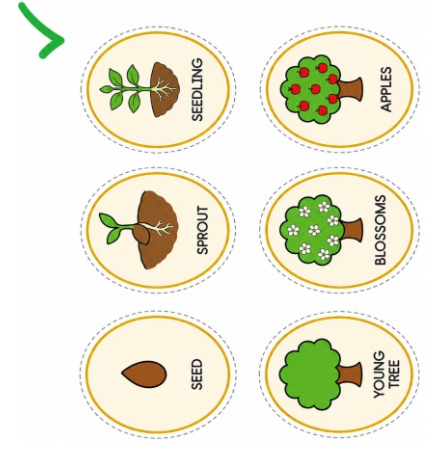
Find and name a picture card.

3



Place it in the correct space.

4

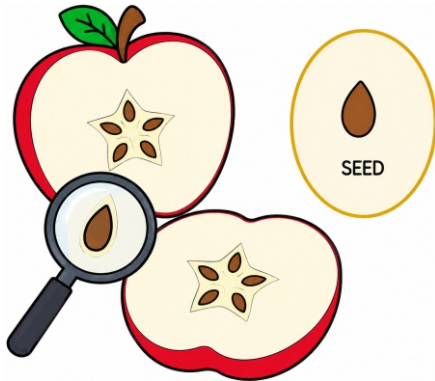


Continue until all six stages are in order.

APPLE TREE LIFE CYCLE

More Ways to Play

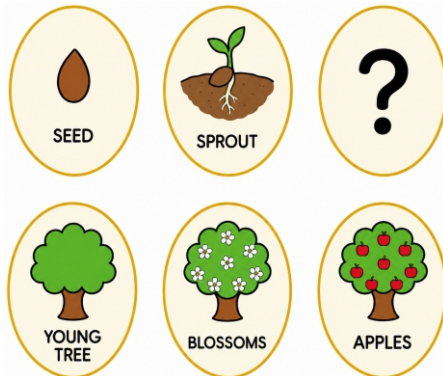
1



APPLE SEED INVESTIGATION

1. Ask an adult to cut an apple in half.
2. Observe the seeds with a magnifying glass.
3. Match a seed to the SEED card.
4. Talk about what happens next.

2



WHICH STAGE IS MISSING?

1. Place all six cards in order.
2. Close your eyes while one card is removed.
3. Name the missing stage.
4. Return it to the correct space.

3



ACT OUT THE LIFE CYCLE

1. Name the six stages in order.
2. Choose a movement for each stage.
3. Act out the cycle from seed to apples.
4. Repeat using the stage names.

TEACHER TIP

Use first, next, then and last as children observe, sequence and act out the life cycle.