

# Ignite STEAM Lessons in the Summer with Hatch Early Learning

Enjoy this fun activity and foster continuous learning during the summer months. Designed to encourage curiosity and hands-on experimentation, these lessons are offered for families and caregivers to facilitate with children at home.



## EGG CARTON GARDEN

**Goal:** To help children explore living things and how things grow

**Materials:** An egg carton, potting soil or dirt from outside, seeds (any kind of seeds are ok), a spray bottle, and water. Optional materials include a small pot and additional potting soil.

**Overview:** Living things are all around us. Children can explore living things, and earth science, by planting seeds and watching them grow. During this activity, you will plant a garden in an egg carton with your child and help them explore the process of growing plants from seeds.

**Directions:**

1. Tell your child that you are going to plant a garden in an egg carton.
2. Help your child place soil or dirt into each egg cup in the carton.
3. Have your child put one finger into the middle of each egg cup to make a small hole in the center of each cup.
4. Have your child place one to two seeds in each egg cup. You can use the same seeds in every space or put different seeds in each space.
5. Have your child cover each seed with dirt and spray a little water in each seed cup.
6. Place the egg carton indoors in a warm, sunny place.
7. Check on the garden every day with your child to water the seeds and watch them sprout and grow. Talk about what things plants need to grow (sunlight, water, nutrients from the soil or dirt) and the things that animals and humans need to grow (food, water, rest, air).
8. If you want, you can keep a journal where you write or draw a picture of what the seeds look like every day.
9. Once the seeds have sprouted, you can transfer the plants to a bigger pot with more soil and continue to watch them grow.