



www.brighthorizons.com/growing

- What in the World?:** Houseplants
- What do you need?:** A hardy houseplant (ivy, Aloe Vera, etc.) and a small watering can.
- What you do:** Help your child choose plants to care for. When you are watering your plants, your child can care for her plants. Talk about how much water the plants need. Have your child measure that amount of water into the watering can. Let your child decide where the plants will get the best amount of sun and fertilize the plant. “What do you think the plant food will do to the plant? What does food do to you? (it makes you grow). What would happen to your plant if you didn’t feed or water it? Do you think your plant looks any greener?” Dust the leaves when needed. Ask: “Can your plant get air with dust on it?”
- Tips:** Use nonpoisonous plants. Some common plants (including Poinsettas and Philodendrens) are mildly poisonous. Other plants, including Shamrock and Dieffenbachia, are highly poisonous.
- Value:** Emotional Intelligence — Responsibility, family contribution (chores).
Science Rocks — Botany, observation, documentation, hypothesis-making, data collection.
- Variations:**
- 1.) Have a job chart for all chores your child must complete. Have them sign their name (check off, or add a sticker) when the job has been completed.
 - 2.) Chart the plant growth. Measure the height after 2 weeks. Count the number of leaves. Watch for any new growth.

We did it!

Name

Signature/Stamp