Seed Investigators

Materials

- Bean of choice (Lima beans, black beans, navy beans, etc. or any other dried bean)
- Water
- Paper towel
- Crayons
- Greenhouse template *See template below
- Plastic sandwich bag
- Tape

Instructions

What are seeds?

- A seed is the part of a seed plant which can grow into a new plant. There are many different kinds of seeds. Some plants make a lot of seeds, some make only a few. Seeds are often hard and very small, but some are larger.
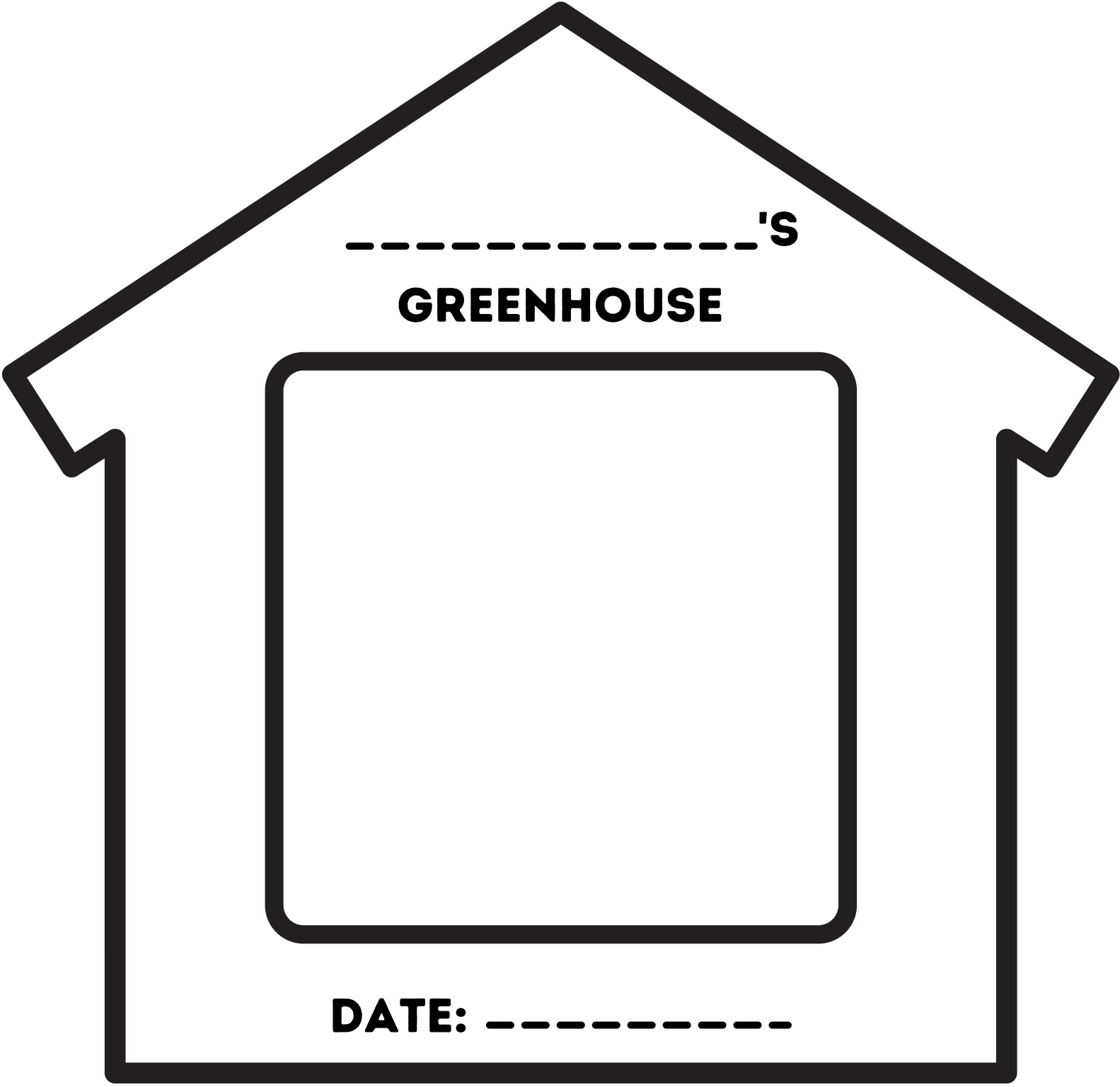
How do seeds grow?

- At the start, seeds are dormant (resting inside their coat) for a while. When the seed is ready to develop, it needs water, air and warmth (but not sunlight) to become a seedling. Seeds carry the food that helps the new plant begin to grow! Once the seed has germinated (or, become a plant) then it begins to develop using water, soil, air, sun, and room to grow!

Make Your Own Greenhouse

- Print the Greenhouse template *See template below (Tip: Print on colored paper - or decorate later!)
- Cut out the Greenhouse - then cut out the square in the center so that there is a window
- Fold your paper towel into a square and spray or lightly soak with water
- Lay your beans (1-2 beans) on the paper towel and insert into the plastic sandwich bag
- Tape the Greenhouse template on top of your plastic sandwich bag - so that you can see through your "window" and observe the beans.
- Decorate the border of your Greenhouse - then tape to a window. Watch as your bean sprouts & grows!

Fun Fact: The largest seed is produced by the Coco de mer, or "double coconut palm", Lodoicea maldivica. The entire fruit may weigh up to 23 kilograms (50 pounds) and usually contains a single seed!

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GREENHOUSE

DATE: _____