



## ACTIVITY #6 (15 MINUTES)

ALL GRADES

### GROW YOUR OWN SWEET POTATO VINE!

#### MATERIALS

- Sweet potato (unwashed with eyes)
- Toothpicks, wooden skewers, or wooden craft sticks
- Clear quart-size jar or glass container with wide mouth (i.e. mason jar, empty nut butter jar, etc.)
- Water (non-chlorinated)
- Sunlight

#### PROCEDURE

Insert about 4 toothpicks or wooden skewers, or wooden craft sticks into the sides of the sweet potato about one-third of the way down. The toothpick will hold the sweet potato upright in the container and allow water to circulate. Place the sweet potato into the jar. Fill the jar with water leaving about 1-inch space between the water and the top of the jar. Keep the sweet potato plant in moderate to full sunlight at room temperature or above 65 degrees F. Note that placing the jar on top of a water heater may speed up the growing process. Check the water levels and add more water when needed.

#### RESULTS

In about 10 to 15 days, the sweet potato will begin to bud. For the next three to six months, vines will grow from the sweet potato. Train the vines to climb up or around classroom objects.

#### OBSERVATIONS

Encourage students to record their observations about the changes taking place. Ask them to identify the roots, stems, and leaves.

*Source: Georgia Harvest of the Month*

