

# PETE THE POTATO



## Materials

- 1 large potato per student (Louisiana Sweet Potatoes work great!)
- Small sponges, cotton balls or peat moss
- Grass seed (rye grass recommended)
- Raisins, cloves, carrots, peas, corn and other vegetables
- Construction paper or fabric scraps

## DIRECTIONS

1. Slice a short piece off the end of the potato so it will stand upright.
2. Slice a short piece off the top and scoop out a small amount of pulp.
3. Stuff the hole with a sponge, cotton ball or peat moss.
4. Create eyes, nose, mouth, ears or other features with the cloves, raisins, etc.
5. Make a shirt collar for Pete with construction paper or fabric.
6. Moisten the material in the hole on Pete's head and add grass seed.
7. Check the sponge daily to be sure it remains moist. Watch Pete's hair grow!

## Extensions:

- Have a contest and select the cutest, funniest, prettiest, etc.
- **Tuber Growth:** To see how potatoes grow from eyes, suspend a potato supported by toothpicks in a jar of water or set a potato sliced in half in a shallow pan of water.  
  
When shoots are 2-3" long, cut the potato so each piece has a shoot and plant in a pot of soil or outdoors to watch the potatoes grow.