

## ART

1. Together make fruit, vegetable, or flower pictures with dried beans and seeds. For each picture, draw an outline of a fruit, vegetable, or flower. Glue beans and seeds inside the outline.
2. Have children make vegetable prints by dipping cut ends of carrots or halves of potatoes into poster paint and "printing" on newspaper.
3. Together make "plant pals." With marker draw faces on paper or plastic cups. Fill with soil and plant grass seed. Set cups on a windowsill, water each day, and wait for plant pals to grow green "hair."

## MUSIC/MOVEMENT

1. Read the book *Inch by Inch (The Garden Song)* by David Mallett and sing the song.
2. Play the tape or CD *High Hopes* by Jimmy Van Heusen.

\*Visit [www.heartwoodethics.org](http://www.heartwoodethics.org) and choose Resources, Pre-k/K for additional vignettes, downloadables, and other activities.

## The Carrot Seed

Ruth Krauss  
1973  
Mexico, Harper Collins

HOPE

## CONCEPTS

Hope  
Perseverance  
Patience

## SUMMARY

**A young boy maintains a positive attitude as he awaits the growth of his carrot seed. He demonstrates hope with his unshakable confidence, patience, and caring actions. The boy's hope shines through in uncomplicated line drawings with bright yellow backgrounds.**

## OBJECTIVE

Children will recognize hope as perseverance and positive action. They will be encouraged to practice patience.

## PREVIEW

1. Hold up a carrot and ask children what they know about carrots. Demonstrate planting a seed in a small pot. Ask children what the plant needs and how long they think it will take to grow.
2. Together find HOPE on the Heartwood attribute poster.
3. Show contents of the Prop Box such as overalls, seeds, watering can, gardening tools, plastic vegetables, seed packs, sticks, modeling clay, and a copy of *The Carrot Seed*.

## READING

1. Read the book page by page and ask, "What do you think the boy might say or think?" Allow time for several hopeful responses.
2. Read the story interactively with children saying the parts of the mother, father, and brother.
3. Read the story together. If possible, obtain a Big Book of the story.

## After the Story

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## DISCUSSION

The boy hopes his seed will grow. What does he do to make his hope come true? What are some of your hopes? What can you do to make your hopes come true?

## ACTIVITIES

1. Together plant a garden outside or in a window box or have each child plant a seed in a paper cup.
2. Pair students for a "Lend a Helping Hand" activity. Talk about hopes for the classroom and what jobs children can perform to help realize those hopes. For example, if children hope to play on the playground, ask what needs to happen in the room before going outside.

## WRAP-UP

1. Make "sunny day windows." Cut frames from heavy paper. Have children color designs on the frames and glue pieces of yellow cellophane to fill them. Allow time for children to look through their "sunny day windows" and tell about hopes they have for friends or family.
2. In *My Heartwood Journal* have children draw pictures of their hopes or what they see through their "windows." Record children's thoughts about what they drew.

## EXTENSION

Children complete the Home Connection Page and teachers record responses. Send these home to children's families.

## Expressive Arts

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## DRAMA/LANGUAGE

1. Prop Box: Use items in the box for retelling and acting out the story or for small group creative play.
2. Mini-Manners Plays\*: With finger puppets, model patience and hope. For example:
  - Puppet 1: My seed didn't sprout.
  - Puppet 2: Let's give it some water. Let's put it in the sun.
  - Puppet 1: Okay!
  - Puppet 2: It will grow. Just wait.
  - Puppet 1: Thank you!
3. Teach children to sign the word "hope."