# Earth's Birthday Project's Amazing Sprouts 2010

# How to Participate

**Your goal is to observe and document change over time. You will sprout a seed, make observations, collect data, and record information in a science journal.**

## 1. Sprout your seed

- Insert the seed into the compost plug. Push the seed down into the plug, but keep it close enough to the surface that you can still see it.
- Wet the plug and put it in a plastic bag (don't seal the bag).
- Make sure that your sprout gets plenty of light and air, which it will need to grow.
- Water your sprout as often as needed. A good rule of thumb is to keep the compost plug moist, but not soggy.
- Once you feel that your sprout has outgrown the compost plug, you may transfer it to a pot. Bury the plug so that approximately half of the sprout is below the soil line (this will keep your sprout from bending or breaking as it grows).
- When the last frost of the year is over, you may transfer your sunflower plant to a sunny spot in your garden or somewhere else outside. Make sure to continue to water the plant regularly.

## 2. Record observations and measurements for 16 days in a scientific journal

- Organize your graph paper as a science journal by folding the graph paper twice along its longest side. This will give you a sheet with 16 squares. In the upper left square, clearly print with a pencil your name, school, teacher's name, address, and telephone number. Number the remaining squares 2 through 16.
- Draw pictures of your sprout as it changes from day to day. Write titles or captions for your pictures.
- Write lists of words or sentences that describe your sprout and the changes taking place.
- Measure sprouts and record any numbers that help describe what is changing on your sprout.
- Each time you observe, ask yourself if there is other data to collect that you didn't think of at first.

## Everyone Wins—and the Earth Does Too!

If your class participates in the Amazing Sprouts activity, you will trigger a $50 donation from Earth's Birthday Project's conservation partners—Nature & Culture International and the World Land Trust—to help purchase and protect an acre of endangered rainforest. To trigger a donation, journals must be received by June 7, 2010.

**Mail your journals to:** **Earth's Birthday Project**
**P.O. Box 1536**
**Santa Fe, NM 87504-1536**