Seedling Dissection

Grade level: Preschool

Season: Spring

Larger IGS Unit: Seeds

Essential Question
What are seeds? How do they grow?

Objective
Students dissect seeds to observe the root and leaves coming out of the growing seeds.

Materials
A variety of sprouting seeds leftover from “Seed Sprouting in a Bag” activity or started ahead by teacher (bean, pumpkin, sunflower, pea)
Magnifying glasses

Intro
What is inside of a seed? We are going to open up some sprouted seeds and observe what is coming out of them.

Activity
Hand out seeds and a magnifying glass to each student. Show them that each seed has a coat that is protecting it. For dicots, they can use their fingernails to pop open the seed. What is coming out of it? Point out the root and forming stem/leaf. Is this the same for each type of seed? Try to find these plant parts (root, stem and leaf) on each of the sprouting seeds.

Extension
Draw sprouts and label them with their plant part.