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A Seed in the Universe written  
and illustrated by Elyon Liu  
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## Teaching Guide for *A Seed in the Universe* by Elyon Liu

1/2

Grade Level: Preschool – Kindergarten

Themes: Interconnectedness, Cause and Effect, Nature, Perspective

Students will explore how everything in the world is connected. Through hands-on activities, they will develop an understanding of cause and effect, sequencing, and how small things are part of a bigger world.

### Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

#### 1. Look at the cover

- What do you see on the cover?
- How do you think a tiny seed and the big universe could be connected?



#### 2. Making connections

- Have you ever planted a seed? What happened?
- What are some things in nature that go together? (Example: flowers and bees, trees and birds)

### During Reading: Interactive Engagement

#### 1. Point to the connections in the story – pause and ask:

- What happens after the seed is inside the apple?
- What happens after the caterpillar eats the apple?
- How do the people in the city connect to the seed?

#### 2. Act it out!

- Assign students different roles (seed, caterpillar, bird, cat, etc.) and have them act out the chain of events as the story progresses.



### Post-Reading Activities

#### 1. Web of connections activity

Materials: ball of yarn or string

- Have students sit in a circle. Start by holding the yarn and saying: “I am a seed inside an apple.”
- Pass the yarn to another student, who continues: “I am the caterpillar who eats the apple.” (Hold onto part of the yarn before passing.)
- Keep going until all students are connected in a giant web, showing how everything in the story is linked!
- At the end, gently pull one part of the yarn to show that when one thing moves, the whole web moves.



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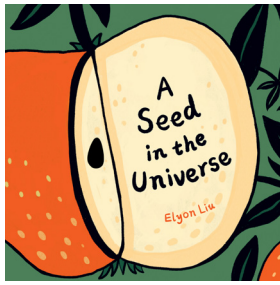
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### 2. Sequencing story events

Materials: Printed images from the book, or cards with simple symbols representing each event (e.g., a seed, a caterpillar, a bird, a city, the universe).

- Show students pictures from the book (seed, caterpillar, bird, dog, city, universe).
- Mix them up and have students put them in order as they happened in the story.
- Use words like “first,” “next,” “then,” “last” to help them understand how one thing leads to another.

### 3. Nature walk: finding connections

Take students outside and have them look for things that are connected.

- Ask students:
  - What is growing in the ground? What do plants need to grow?
  - What animals do you see? What are they doing?
  - Can you find something small (like a seed) and something big (like a tree)? How are they connected?

### 4. Drawing activity: my connections to the world

Materials: Paper, crayons, markers

- Ask students: “What are you connected to?” Give simple examples like:
  - “I am connected to my family because we help each other.”
  - “I am connected to the earth because it grows the food we eat.”
- Have students draw a picture of themselves and one thing they are connected to (e.g., a tree, a pet, the sun).



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