

How to Grow a Sweet Potato Plant

Modified from : [eHow™ http://www.ehow.com/how_2074676_grow-sweet-potato-plant.html](http://www.eHow.com/how_2074676_grow-sweet-potato-plant.html)

Growing a sweet potato plant or vine is an easy starter garden or classroom project. That makes it an excellent project to do with children, in a classroom or just for the pure enjoyment of watching the somewhat ugly sweet potato grow into a beautiful plant.

Things You'll Need

Clear jar or glass

Wooden toothpicks

Sweet potato with or without buds ("eyes")

Instructions

1. Compare the size of your sweet potato to the size of your jar to make sure your jar is large enough.
2. Push three or four toothpicks into the side of the sweet potato. The toothpicks should be forming a circle around the middle of the sweet potato.
3. Place one end of the sweet potato down into the jar. The toothpicks should be long enough to cover the edge of the jar holding the upper half of the sweet potato out of the jar.
4. Fill the jar with water until the bottom half of the sweet potato is almost covered by the water.
5. Place the jar in a window so that it can have access to sunlight as it is now a growing plant. In about two to three weeks you will notice that the little potato buds have formed roots down into the water. Be sure to keep adequate water in the jar to promote the growth of the plant.
6. Watch for the green leaves to start sprouting from the top of the potato. It will really start to grow pretty fast by this time. The leaves will resemble a vine.
7. Replant your new sweet potato plant or vine into a pot or hanging basket when the leaves and roots have really taken off. Tend to your new sweet potato plant as you would any other green plant. You can also just keep the sweet potato in the jar and enjoy watching how long all the vines of the plant become.

Tips

- This makes an excellent project for a classroom or young children as the progress of the growing plant is visible on the top and the bottom of the sweet potato.
- If you plant the sweet potato in soil in a garden or flower bed, it may spread and reproduce sweet potatoes that can be eaten.