



# Reproduction of Living Things Activity for Kids

## Vegetable Cloning DIY

 Duration: **10–15 min**

 Difficulty: **Easy**

 Cost: **\$0 to \$10**

Learn how to clone a vegetable from just a stem!

### Material List

- 1** Romaine lettuce stalk
- 1** Drinking glass
- 1** Cutting knife
- 1** Cup of water

**Adult supervision**

### Instructions

- 1** Carefully cut off the top of the lettuce, leaving just a few centimeters of the stem. Lettuce that still has a little brown on the bottom of the stem works best.
- 2** Place the cut stem in a glass, and fill it with water until it reaches halfway up the stem.
- 3** Place the glass by a windowsill and change the water each day. New leaves will begin to grow in a matter of days.

### How It Works

Some plants, like the romaine lettuce, reproduce sexually, BUT they can also reproduce asexually. When you leave the stem of the lettuce in water for a couple of days, you see that it grows new leaves. This works because lettuce cells can reproduce by copying their DNA and splitting to make new cells! This is a form of asexual reproduction. Farmers can use this property of lettuce for making copies of their best plants.

