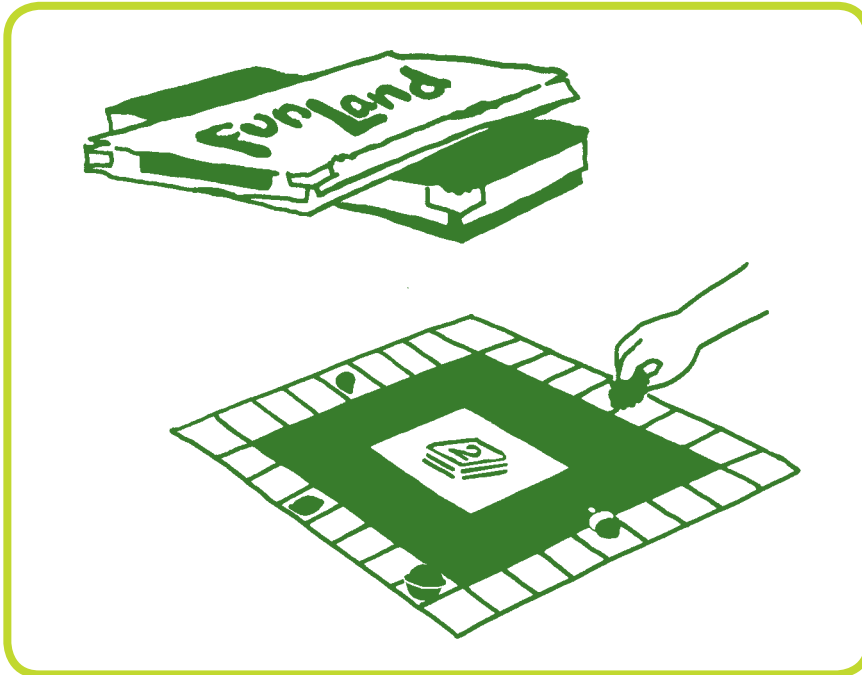


SELF ACTIVITY SITE [30 MINUTES]

# Grow a New Game



**Eco-Question:** Why do people plant seeds?



**Spiritual Question:** Why does God plant seeds?



**What will kids do?** Kids recycle parts/boards from old games to create a new one, using seeds as game pieces.



**Why is this activity important?** Seeds are the starting point from which something bigger grows. The seeds of God's love are in all of us. We share that love when we care for God's creation.

DAY 1

## Get Ready

- ❑ leftover pieces from incomplete board games
- ❑ seeds large enough to serve as game pieces (pumpkin seeds, navy beans, and so forth)
- ❑ optional: egg cartons, boxes, sidewalk chalk, and/or art supplies

## Get Set (Up)

Collect pieces from board games, being sure to ask for games that are no longer usable because of missing pieces. (If kids have outgrown or are tired of complete games, share them with others.) Set up a supplies table where kids can select pieces for the games they create. Bring art supplies if needed to augment the game parts. If game parts are not available, use sidewalk chalk or any of the art supplies listed. Have ample large seeds on hand to serve as game pieces.

## Go Green!

Today's activity invites kids to use their imagination to create new games, complete with rules and objectives, using something that was destined for the trash. You will help them think about recycling and the actions and words that plant seeds of God's love. Depending on the size of the group, you may create one game or ask kids to form small groups. Watch for kids who seem hesitant and help them participate.

Welcome kids to the Self Activity Site. **In this site it's all about YOU. In a good way, of course. Today you'll think about the seeds of God's love you can show others. But we won't be just talking about it. You'll think while you work. Today you will take old games and make them into new ones. You might even have games in your home that are missing parts, so they just take up space or get thrown in the trash. That means your house is messy or our land gets filled up with trash! Today we'll take parts of old games and put them together to make a new one!**

**Create a game that relates to this sentence: We carry the seeds of God's love with us and can help others see that love when we care for God's creation.**

**Use your imagination to make up new rules and give it a new look, and you have to find a way to use seeds.**

Take a few minutes to think about some possibilities. Some kids may name types of games (Tic-Tac-Toe with a Twist, build a ReNewing Robot, Mighty Memory, and so forth). Others may talk about game goals (get from point A to point B with a wall of seeds in the way, see how many seeds you can plant, and so forth). Others may want to get to work on how the game board looks. Tell them how much time they have and set them loose. Ask shepherds to help keep the ideas flowing, if needed.

## Move to Act!

**Okay, let's see what you came up with!** Have kids explain and demonstrate their games. **Wow, those are some creative ways of recycling old games into new ones! When we recycle, we're following God's model that looks for potential growth in anything. You gave these old games new life, just as a packet of seeds might turn a vacant lot into something beautiful.**

### greenER:

Recycle all leftover materials.

### greenEST:

Keep the games to use the rest of the week, then donate to the church.

## Leader Tip

Kids may feel a bit tentative when first trying to invent new games. Work alongside them, inventing your own game and checking up on kids' progress.