2.MD Growing Bean Plants

Task

a. Students in pairs grow bean plants from seed. In a small glass jar, put a roll of paper towel inside, cut to the height of the jar. Place a bean seed between the paper towel and the glass. Pour around 1 centimeter of water into the bottom of the jar. Place the jar on a window ledge where it will receive light, but preferably not direct sunlight.

b. When the bean seeds start to grow, have the students measure their bean plant every couple of days or so. Students record each measurement with the date in their science books.

c. Record the student pairs’ data on a line plot every few days, depending on how fast the plants grow. Prepare a blank line plot for each ‘measurement day’, and invite each student pair to record the height of their plant on the line plot.

d. Each time the line plot is finished, discuss the patterns evident in the line plot, and compare with earlier line plots.