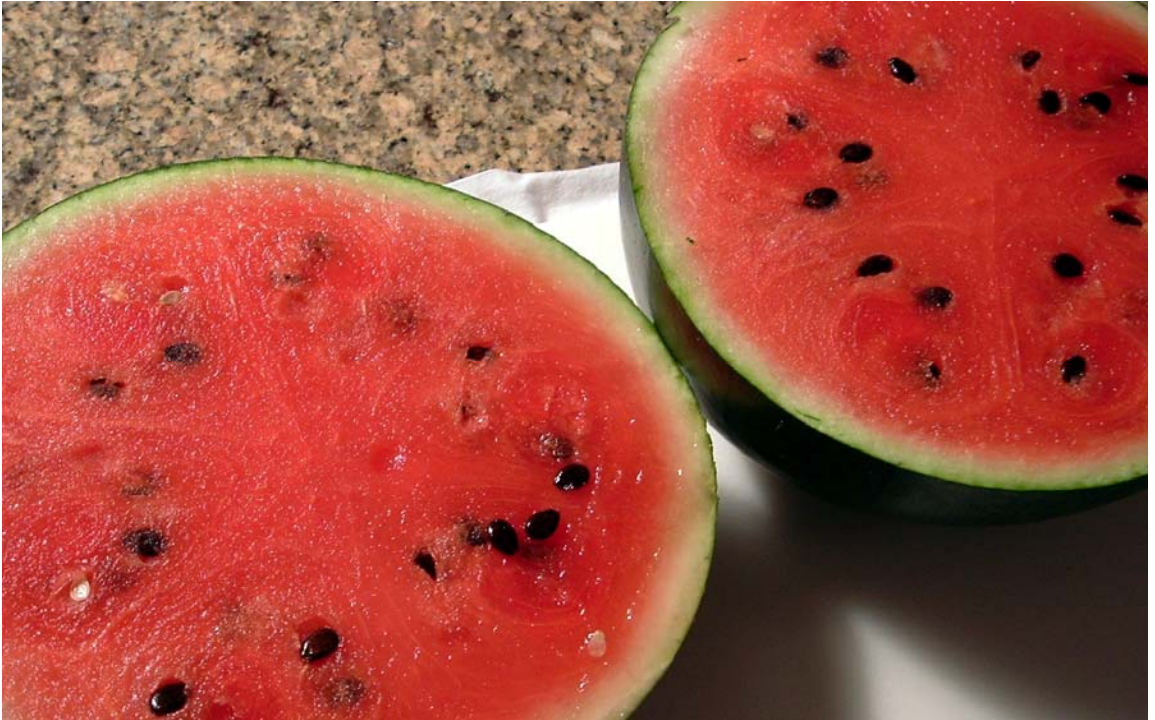


Watermelon





When most kids eat watermelon, they like to spit out the seeds.



But you could save the seeds and grow your own watermelon.

Find a sunny place in the garden and dig a little hole. Put the seeds in and cover them with dirt.



Water the seeds often and soon there will be a small plant growing called a seedling.



As the plant gets bigger, flowers will start to grow. These flowers will turn into the watermelon.



A watermelon is growing. It is getting big but it's not ready to pick yet.



Now, the watermelon is ripe and ready to eat. It is large, round and long.



The best thing about growing a watermelon is getting to eat it!



Then you'll have more seeds to plant so you can grow more watermelon next time!

The Mustard Seed Books project uses an open-source, Wikipedia-type strategy, leveraging public expertise to create and refine a set of high-quality books that support early reading development. All of the books and pictures are covered by the Creative Commons License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>) and are free to print, distribute, and modify for personal or educational use. The books are available at www.mustardseedbooks.org. New titles appear on a regular basis.

There is a blog post on the website so that we can receive and discuss feedback on the books. These books have been revised a number of times, but we'd love to keep improving them. Any feedback is welcome. We also welcome photos or ideas for new books.

Photos for these books come primarily from Flickr (www.flickr.com) and the Morgue File (www.morguefile.com). Both sites are great resources for high-quality publicly accessible photos and for aspiring photographers looking to share their work. All photographs are covered by the Creative Commons License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>).

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BOOK LEVELS

Guided Reading: F
Grade Level: 1.5

Set 3 - Advanced 1st

Word Count: 134
Reading Recovery: 10

Our aim with this series of books is to weave together two significant goals in the design of early reading materials—that the books are both instructional and engaging. Books designed to develop reading skills often end up feeling like work to read, while books designed to be interesting are often too difficult for beginning readers.

These books for beginning readers support phonics-based classroom instruction by including a high concentration of phonetically regular words, as well as the most commonly used sight words. However, the books are written using pictures and stories that make sense, with simple language structures supporting independent reading and language development. Our intent is to produce books that kids want to read, think about, talk about and read again.

Mustard Seed Books - 2011

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