Two Methods of Planting

1. Direct-seeding
   - method of planting seeds directly in the garden plot.

   Characteristics of seeds and plants:
   - big seeds
   - seeds that grow fast
   - seeds and plants that do not need extra care during the seedling stage.
   - seeds with delicate root system

   Examples of seeds:
   - cucumber
   - squash
   - kangkong
   - melon
   - watermelon
   - sitao
   - okra
   - radish
   - beans
   - carrot

**Steps in planting using the direct-seeding method**

1. Prepare garden plots.
   - Ideal size is 2 to 3 feet.

2. Sterilize the garden plot.
   - Burn hays on the surface of the garden plot
   - Pour boiling water on the surface of the garden plot

3. Sow seeds on the ground and cover them with soil.
   - The depth of the hole should be twice or four times the diameter of the seed.
   - The spacing between the plants should be equal to the height of the plant when it reaches maturity.
   - Plants which grow tall and slender like celery, green peas, bush lima and onions can be planted nearer while plants which grow broader like kangkong, broccoli and cabbage should be planted farther away each other.

4. Cover the soil with mulch.
   Mulch – any organic material like grasses, lawn clippings that you put on the surface of the soil to prevent water from evaporating.
   **Cover the soil with mulch and not the plants.**

5. Water the plants and the soil.

6. Remove some seedlings once the true leaves have come out to maintain at least 5 centimeter distance between plants.

7. Cover the garden bed with nylon net once the seedling start to grow to protect plants from too much heat of the sun and strong winds.

**Vocabulary:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>English - Tagalog</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. plot – isang lagay ng lupa</td>
<td>isang lagay ng lupa</td>
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<td>2. hay – dayami</td>
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<td>3. mulch – malts</td>
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<td>4. seedling – punla</td>
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<td>5. sheath – saha</td>
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<td>6. sprout – usbong</td>
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<td>7. sow – ihasik ; ipunla</td>
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2. Transplanting

- method of planting seed in a seed box and later, when the seedlings are big enough, (when they have two or four "true" leaves) they are transplanted from the seed box to the garden plot.

Characteristics of seeds and plants

- small seeds
- plants that need extra care during their seedling stage

Examples of seeds

- tomato
- Eggplant
- Mustard
- Pechay
- Pepper

Steps in planting seeds in a seed box

1. Prepare the seed box using wooden box, plastic egg tray or metal cans.
2. Fill seed box with a good soil for sprouting seeds.
3. Sow the seeds and cover them with soil.
   - The depth of the hole should be twice or four times the diameter of the seed.
4. Water the soil using a sprinkler.
5. Cover the seed box with a plastic cover to protect seeds from direct heat of the sun.
6. Transplant the seedling once the "true leaves" have emerge.

Considerations when transplanting

- Transplant seedlings in the afternoon to allow the roots to recover from damage.
- Do not transplant during rainy weather.
- Bring the seed box near the garden plot.

Steps in transplanting

1. Remove the seedling from the seed box as gently as possible by digging 2 to 3 inches beneath the root system.
   - Pass a sharp knife or trowel in between the seedlings, much like cutting a cake into smaller pieces.
2. Transplant the seedling in the prepared garden plot.
3. Cover the seedling and gently tamp the soil up to the first leaves.
4. Water each seedling soon after you have transferred it.
   - Do not wait until you have planted a row of seedling before watering.
5. Maintain at least 5-inch distance between seedlings.
6. Cover the seedling with *saha* to protect them from strong winds and too much heat of the sun.