

Teaching with TAGRO

Grades 2-5 Post-Visit Activity

Materials Needed: TAGRO Potting Soil, other supplies based on each student's experiment.

Purpose: To give students firsthand knowledge by experimenting with the natural plant food TAGRO that can help reduce the amount of chemical fertilizer used in our community.

Directions:

- Schedule the EnviroChallenger to bring some TAGRO to use in your class. TAGRO is available in mix, potting soil and mulch. Try one or all three.
- Have your students design an experiment using TAGRO or follow our simple plan. Have students bring in needed materials based on their experiment. For example, they may test the growing power of regular potting soil versus TAGRO Potting Soil. You could do a full class experiment where each student tests the same thing, or individualize each experiment.
- If you already have a plant growth experiment planned, simply substitute a TAGRO product in a few of the pots and compare the results.
- If you do not have an experiment planned, try this:
 - Get some plant seeds that will grow indoors (try herbs).
 - Have each student prepare one pot (rinsed milk cartons work great).
 - Divide the class into thirds and have one part of the class use soil from the school grounds (obtain permission from maintenance). Another portion of the students should use regular potting soil, available in most stores. The remaining group will use one of the TAGRO products. Make sure each plant gets the same amount of water, light and beginning soil level. Plant all seeds to the same depth.
 - Now watch and record plant growth. Which seeds sprout first, which ones grow the tallest and which ones look the healthiest?
 - Let the EnviroChallengers know of your results and call 591-5066 if you have any questions or would like to schedule one of the EnviroChallengers to bring you some TAGRO products.
 - If you have a school science fair, try using your experiments as your entry!