**2nd Grade Extension Lesson Plan to follow the reading of *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Elhert**

**Focus and review:** Have different colored flowers and seeds. Ask students; “Where do you think these flowers came from?” and “Where do you think these seeds came from?” Talk about connection between seeds and flowers.

**Objective:**

* Students will plant and care for their seeds/plants.
* Students will observe and record their observations in their journal over the next 4 weeks. They can either draw or write to record their observations.
* Students will write a story to represent the growing cycle of their seed/plant.
* Students will collect data by counting the number of seeds in each packet.
* Students will represent data in a bar graph.

**Teacher input:** Teacher will:

* Read *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert.
* Explain that each child will be given seeds, pot and potting soil and they will be responsible for planting and taking care of their plants.
* Explain how to make and record observations.

**Guided practice:** Teacher will:

* Divide the class into five groups with four students in each group. Each group will count the number of seeds in their designated packet.
* Discuss how the students will display and record their data onto the class graph.
* Demonstrate the proper method for planting seeds.
* Assist the students as they prepare their pots for the seeds and plant them. The students will label their pots similar to that in the book.

**Independent practice:** Students will:

* Research and get pictures that show how their seeds will look when they become flowers.
* Bring pictures in to share with the rest of the class.
* Observe and record their observations in their journal.

**Assessment and closure:** Students will use their observation journals to write a story that represents the growing cycle of their plants. Students will present their seed data and update the classroom seed graph. Teacher and students will discuss what the data represent such as which seed packets had the most and least amount of seeds.