

COULD MARK WATNEY HAVE ACTUALLY GROWN POTATOES IN 10 CM DEEP SOIL?

MATERIALS

- 2 seed potato
- Bucket of soil (this will be on the front island)
- Two-liter plastic beverage containers
- 2 Saucers (e.g. aluminum pie plates) on which to place containers to catch drained water
- 1 Metric rulers
- Sunny location to place pots (keep them in your designated place under the grow lights)

OBJECTIVE: Test growth of potatoes when grown in containers of different depths

PROCEDURES:

1. Label your containers for the amount of soil each one will have.
2. Obtain 1 "seed" potatoes for each container.
3. Plant "seed" potato with sprout 'eyes' facing upwards in soil of each depth treatment.
4. Water pots until they start dripping in the pan
5. Observe for emergence of plant shoots.
6. At 7-10 day intervals, record status of plants including length of shoots. Add water to dripping.

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QUESTION: Could Mark Watney have actually grown potatoes in a soil depth of 10 cm?

CLAIM: Mark Watney could have or Could not have grown potatoes in 10 cm of soil .

(Circle either "could" or "Could not")

EVIDENCE:

REASONING:

