

## Moving out, seeds on the move.

### Objective:

- ☀ Students will be able to define the function of a seeds for plants
- ☀ Students will be able to describe the different methods of seed dispersal
- ☀ Students will be able to describe how factors in the environment affect seed dispersal
- ☀ Students will be able to relate how seeds have evolved to meet different environmental conditions

### Materials:

Basil seeds, magnifying glass or microscope, Lugol's iodine, droppers,

### Procedures:

1. Students will get basil seeds to investigate.
2. After recording observations will wet the seeds and observe what happens (get sticky)
3. Students will test coating with iodine and discover if covering is a polysaccharide.
4. Discussion of results of this investigation. Introduce what is a seed, structure of seeds and different parts, function of seeds.
5. In pairs students will brain storm other ways that seeds could be spread through environment.
6. Students construct a class chart of possible means of seed dispersal.
7. Homework: finding seeds that use the listed means of dispersion. See how many different seed types they can find and attach the seeds found to the chart.

### Follow-up Activities:

1. Investigate major weed species in PA that impact agriculture.
2. How are weeds controlled, could dispersion mechanisms be attacked to control the weed species?
3. How long can a seed remain dormant? How do dormant seeds affect agriculture?