

Life Science class, 4/3 data

We had some bad luck with tomato plants in container T2 since the start of this week. Although five seeds sprouted in mid-March, four of the plants suddenly withered and died in a matter of days. I have no idea why, as they have been watered and placed outside in the sun when the weather allowed. Another negative to report is that one of the sprouts in the Basil container is now large enough to see that it is a weed.

Measurements that I took this morning for all the surviving plants (that aren't weeds) include: (tomato) T1 7.9 cm; T2 8.7 cm; (watermelon) W1 5.3 cm; W2 10.5 cm (no change); (basil) B 2.1 cm (no change); and (green bean) GB (still only 1 sprout) 2.9 cm (no change). **Please record these data in your notebooks.** I will prepare the garden plots at school this weekend and transplant the tomato and watermelon plants we grew indoors. I will also plant some additional green bean and flower seeds in the outdoor plots.

New data for bird sightings include: April 1st male and female cardinals; tufted titmouse, (red) house finch, and black-capped chickadee; April 2nd black-capped chickadee, tufted titmouse, Carolina wren, male and female cardinals, and mourning dove; and April 3rd male and female cardinals, and black-capped chickadee. **Please record these sightings in your notebook.**

There have still been no sightings of dark-eyed juncos at the feeder. It seems the group that lived around Harvest School has flown north. Have any of you seen juncos around your houses in the last 7–10 days? Another bird I have not seen, or heard, in a few days is the northern mocking bird. As this is a year-round resident, its interests at the moment may have turned to something else (any idea what this might be in the spring time?).