REPURPOSE FOOD WASTE - How to Grow a Fruit Tree from Fruit Seeds that are Saved

Source: Anna Ikona, www.homesteading.com, 2019 (https://homesteading.com/growing-fruit-trees-seeds/)

Did you know you can grow fruit trees from seeds that you save? If you want to start harvesting fruit trees, you'll love this easy way to grow your own fruit trees for free. You could save money on fruit and enjoy the benefits of homegrown produce!

Most of us throw out the seeds from the fruit we eat. Did you know that you can grow trees from those seeds? Here's a way to grow trees from seeds that will produce healthy fruits!

1. **Germinate Seeds**
   Clean the fruity flesh off the seeds. Pick it off using your fingers. Or if it's too hard to do, try to soak the seeds in warm water for 2 minutes first. Click here to learn more about germinating seeds

2. **Choose the Soil**
   Some people say you must use seed-starting soil, but any soil is fine. Even old soil from your garden beds would work perfectly.

3. **Choose Where to Plant**
   Choose where you will plant the seeds. Don't plant the seeds outside or in garden beds, because it may be too cold outside. You also want to plant in a smaller confined space to better manage and track the growth of your seed. Plant your seeds in a pot or container. You can use a chopstick or finger to dig small holes in the soil. You can keep them on a windowsill until they grow bigger.

   How deep to plant your seeds:

Seed Size:	Depth:
1 inch……………………………………..2 inches	
¾ inch……………………………………… 1 ½ inches	
½ inch……………………………………..1 inch	
¼ inch……………………………………..¾ inch	

4. **Care for Your Seeds**
   Water your seeds often. Fertilize them once the trees are over 3 inches tall. You could use store-bought fertilizer or make it yourself out of compost (see the composting activity below). The choice is yours. Once the tree becomes twice as tall as the pot it is in, transfer it into a larger pot.

From there you can watch your trees grow big and strong!