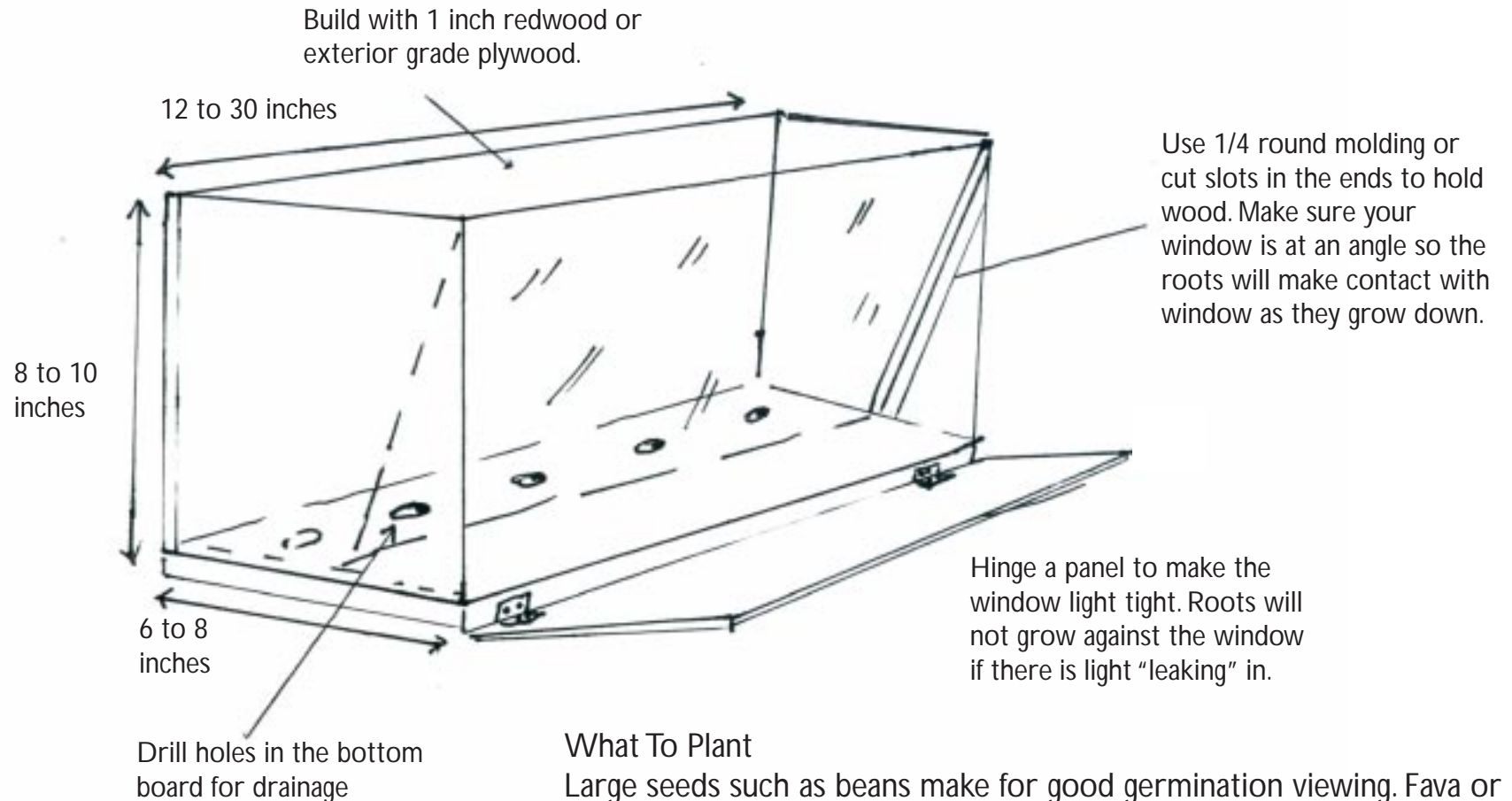


Building a Root View Box

Using the diagram below you can create an educational structure for your garden or classroom. Attach 2 - five foot, two by fours to the sides of the box to mount it in the garden or place your box on a table top. It is a good idea to treat wood with a wood preserving oil such as tung oil before filling with soil. Fill to the top with a mixture of half garden soil and half compost or use a potting soil mix. Plant seeds right up against the glass. Keep moist but not soggy and watch your seeds sprout and roots grow.



What To Plant

Large seeds such as beans make for good germination viewing. Fava or bell beans develop easy to see root nodules that are used for nitrogen fixation. Rainbow chard and nigella plants have colored roots, which make for interesting viewing. Plant a variety of seeds and compare the different root structures.