



Christmas Flowers



Did you know you can add some colour to white flowers using food colouring? Water is transported up the stem of a plant via a process called transpiration. It's a bit like water being sucked up a straw. This can be demonstrated by adding food colouring to the water a flower is placed in.

Materials!

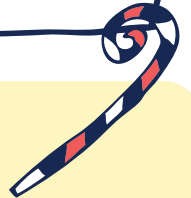
Water
Food colouring
White flowers such as carnations



Method!



- Trim the flowers leaving a short stem
- Add water and food colouring to a jar or vase.
- Place your flowers into the water and wait.
- You should see colour reach the petals after a couple of hours.



Discuss!



Can you try this with celery?

Extension Tasks...

- Try splitting the stem in half, place one half in red food colouring and one in green, what happens?



Note: Natural food colourings do not work

