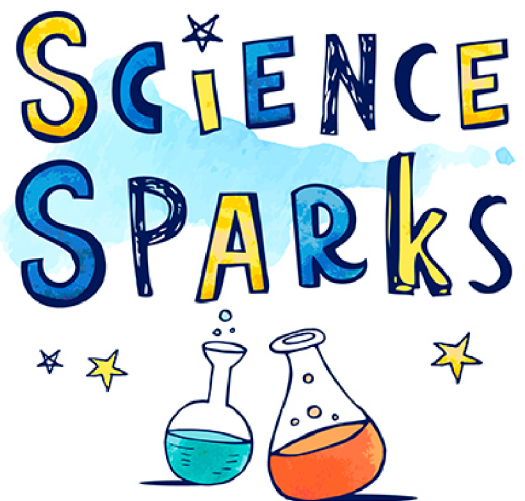


A decorative border made of green, needle-like leaves, possibly representing rosemary, framing the central text.

PLANT SCIENCE

KEY STAGE 1
AGE 4-7



Plant Science

What is a wild plant?

A wild plant seed grows wherever it falls without being cared for. For example: dandelions, daisies, buttercups, nettles and ivy.

Activity Idea

Try a treasure hunt to see how many wild flowers children can find.

Press them and stick onto a collage, cardboard frame or crown.



WHAT DO PLANTS NEED TO GROW?

Plants need sunshine, water and nutrients from the soil to grow.

Activity Ideas

Grow a Sunflower



Grow a sunflower and measure how tall it grows.

Collect, dry and eat or save and replant the the sunflower seeds afterwards!

Grow a bean in a Jar

This activity is great or learning about what plants need for germination.

You'll need:

A broad bean seed

Jar

Kitchen roll or a napkin

Water



Instructions

Swirl a small amount of water around the jar.

Fold the napkin or kitchen roll and place in the jar.

Place the bean seed in the jar on the napkin.

Spray water on the bean every other day.

The bean should start to grow roots after a few days, this is called germination.

Water, oxygen and the right emperature are needed for a seed to germinate.

Light is NOT needed or germination.

DISSECT A FLOWER

Dissecting a flower is a great way to learn about the different parts.

You'll need:

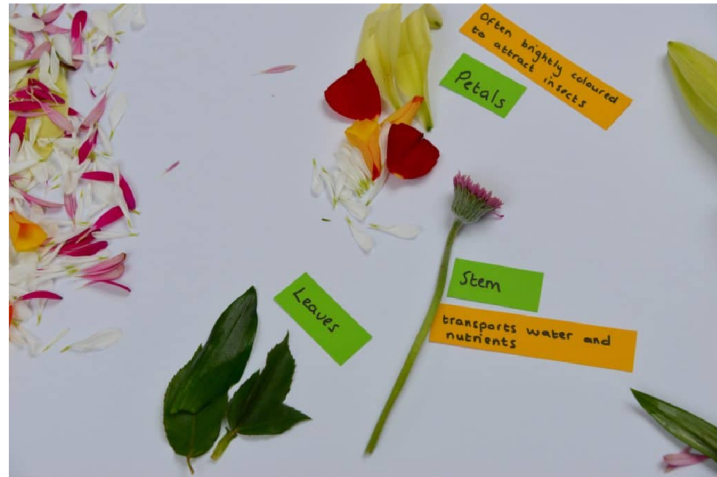
A flower with large parts such as a lily, iris, daffodil or tulip.

Tweezers

Scissors

Paper

Instructions



Lay the flower out over a piece of paper.

Try to find the following flower parts and use the scissors to carefully dissect the flower.

Root – carries water and nutrients from the soil to the plant and keeps it anchored in the ground.

Petal – often brightly coloured to attract insects

Leaf – uses energy from sunlight to creating oxygen and sugars for the plant to use for energy.

Stem – transports water and nutrients from the soil to the rest of the plant. The stem supports the leaves and flowers allowing them to be raised above the ground to be in the light.

COLOURFUL FLOWERS



You'll need

White flowers
Food Colouring -not natural colours
Small jar
Water



Instructions

Trim the flowers at the stalks.

Fill the jar to about half full with food colouring and water.

Add a single flower to the jar.

After a few hours the flower will be tinged with colour!



Extra Challenge

Try carefully splitting a stem in half - ask an adult to help

Place one half of the stem in one colour water and the other in a different colour.

After a couple of hours the flower should be two colours!

Why does this happen?

Plant leaves have lots of tiny holes called stomata (a little like the pores in our skin). Water evaporates from plant leaves through stomata and is replaced by water sucked up the stem from the roots. This process is called transpiration and is a bit like a person sucking a straw!

Parts of a Plant

Flower

Smells good and is brightly coloured to attract insects.
Insects help the plants make seeds.



stem

The stem is like a big tube which transports water and nutrients to all parts of the plant.



leaf

Uses sunshine to make food.



roots

The roots help the plant to hold itself up and transport water and nutrients from the soil.



