

Hedgehog Class Science: Plants

This term in Science, we are learning about plants. As part of this, children should learn to do the following things: identify and name a variety of common plants, flowers and trees; describe the basic structure of plants and the jobs of each part of a plant; observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into plants; find out how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and be healthy; and explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of plants. Below are some suggested activities for you to do with your child to support their learning in this area. Please feel free to choose as many as you like and to come up with your own ideas.

Plant some seeds or bulbs and take care of them to make sure they grow well.	Grow a bean plant in a jar so that you can see the roots sprouting http://www.greatgrubclub.com/grow-a-bean-plant#.XsY5dmhKhPY . This website has loads of great growing projects.	Keep a plant diary of something you are growing and record what changes every day.	Write a set of instructions telling someone how to plant some seeds and take care of them while they grow into a plant.
Go on a nature walk and do some plant spotting. You could collect leaves from different trees and then try to find out the names of the trees they belong to https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/how-to-identify-trees/ .	Make some detailed observational drawings of different plants and flowers by looking at them very closely. Pay particular attention to the leaves.	Compare flowers by choosing some to dissect and removing the petals to see what they look like inside https://www.science-sparks.com/dissecting-flowers-and-more-plant-experiments/ . Be careful with the pollen as this can stain.	Preserve some flowers by pressing them https://www.cbc.ca/parents/play/view/how-to-press-flowers-with-your-kids
Learn about seed dispersal with this catchy song https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CCOWHa-qfc	Create a play showing the life cycle of a plant from the seed growing into a plant, the flower making new seeds and the new seed being transported somewhere else to grow.	Find out about the plants we can eat as fruits and vegetables https://www.fairbankssoilwater.org/user-files/Plant%20Parts%20We%20Eat%20Lesson.pdf (page 6).	Make a plant based meal like a salad, soup or fruit kebabs. Remember to be careful when using knives to cut food.
Draw a design of your dream garden. Choose what plants you would like and where. Think about their colours, sizes and what they need to grow. Remember to think about areas like grass, stones and soil as well.	Make a miniature garden using items you find in your garden or on a walk https://miniaturegardenshoppe.com/pages/miniature-garden-inspiration-gallery.html .	Watch some video clips about plants on the BBC Bitesize website https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpxnyrd/resources/1 .	Visit the Science - Plants section of Purple Mash and choose an activity.