

Plants KS1- How to guide

Collect equipment from the centre and follow the map to First Marsh

Equipment

All equipment is provided

- Seed game resources
- Flower spotting sheets
- Wipeable pens
- Interview a plant sheet, clipboards & pencils

Instructions

1. Introduce plant lifecycles by carrying out a role play- everyone begins as a seed, crouch on the ground. As conditions are right, the roots start to push out and down into the soil (pushing feet into the ground), then the leaves start to unfurl, slowly upwards (pupils gradually uncurl and stand upright, stretching arms above them). The leaves open out to face the sun (spread arms & hands wide), then the flowers appear (pupils cup their smiling face in their hands). A bee visits each flower, pollinating it (an adult goes round the circle to each pupil 'pollinating' their flower), the flowers turn to fruits (pupils hold their arms out, hands hanging down as if heavy with fruit), seeds drop from the fruit to the ground, the whole cycle begins again.
2. Play the seed game to consolidate what a seed needs to grow (see separate resource sheet).
3. In small groups (3 or 4 pupils), using the flower spotting sheets, pupils then look at the flowers on the marsh and record (using ticks or tally charts) the number of different shapes and colours. The aim is to show the variety, not the number of daisies for example!
4. Each small group chooses one plant that they want to find out more about, and 'interview' it, using the Interview a Plant sheet, taking it in turns to ask the plant the questions, and give the answers (based on what they observe). Share one fact about their plant with the rest of the group.

Important: we look with our eyes and do not pick the flowers

At the end of the activity

1. Discuss: which shape was the most common? Which colour? Were most flowers bright or dark colours? Why is this? What do the pupils know that visits flowers? Flowers are trying to attract bees and other pollinating insects hence the different shapes, patterns and colours.
2. Flower spotting sheets should be wiped and returned to the box.