

A Passion for Plants: Grabbed by Germination and Growth

Season: Spring		Duration: 1 day(10am-2pm approx)													
<p>Overview: Get 'grabbed' by germination and growth with a day of fun games and discovery. Using our beautiful wildflower collection, the wider nature reserve, fun props and resources we find out: What is the structure of a seed? How do seeds grow into seedlings? What triggers germination in spring-time? What do plants need to grow? What is the basic structure of a plant and what job does each part do? How can we care for plants and help them grow? Children also have the opportunity to grow their own wildflower plants using seeds collected at Carymoor.</p>															
<p>Learning Objectives: Knowledge of the structure of a seed and an understanding of the importance of this structure. Knowledge of the process of seed germination and the environmental conditions that trigger this. Knowledge of the general structure of a plant. To understand the role of parts of the plant in plant growth, nutrition and lifecycle.</p>		<p>Key Vocabulary:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Germination</td> <td>Stem</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pollination</td> <td>Seed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seed coat</td> <td>Photosynthesis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seed leaves (cotyledons)</td> <td>Chlorophyll</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Endosperm</td> <td>Minerals</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Root</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Germination	Stem	Pollination	Seed	Seed coat	Photosynthesis	Seed leaves (cotyledons)	Chlorophyll	Endosperm	Minerals	Root	
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<p>National Curriculum Links: KS2: Sc2: Life processes and living things: Life Processes: 1 b; Green Plants: 3 a b+c (Growth and Nutrition), 3d (Reproduction);</p>															
<p>Outline of Activities with approximate timings:</p> <p>Please Note: All activities are weather and time-dependent and may be subject to change on the day.</p> <p>Morning: Introduction (15 minutes) Using a giant seed model and real specimens we discuss: What is a seed? What is inside a seed? How does a seed grow into a plant? Why do some seeds start to germinate in Spring and how are seeds different to bulbs?</p> <p>Spring Spotters (30 minutes) Search for signs of spring around our nature reserve: who will find the most seedlings, spring flowers and bud-burst along the trail?</p> <p>Germination Game (15 minutes) Children experience the challenge of developing from a seed into a plant in this active game: can they collect all of the things they need to germinate before being eaten?!</p> <p>Build a Plant (15 minutes) A recap of the general structure of a plant- which team will be the first to construct their plant correctly?</p> <p>Food Factory Challenge (30 minutes) A lively way to develop understanding of the function of parts of a plant. Who are the 'miners' 'truckers' and 'chefs' of the plant world? Children become parts of the plant and have to work together to ensure their plant 'food factory' functions smoothly, stays healthy and grows!</p>															

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Carymoor Environmental Trust

Outline of Activities with approximate timings (Continued):

Lunch (30 minutes)

Afternoon:

Potty Planters (30 minutes)

Use our fun paper potters to make recycled plant pots and plant seeds from our wildflower collection to nurture back at school. Make a plant label detailing how to care for your plant and think about how it will enhance your school garden eg as a nectar source for butterflies/ bees etc.

Plant 'Splat' Plenary (15minutes)

A final fun team game (from the SAPS programme) to re-cap learning from the day!

Suggested follow-up activities:

Continue to care for the seeds planted during your visit to Carymoor and plant the whole pot into the school garden when ready. Why not use the plants to encourage more wildlife into your school garden as part of a wildflower meadow or wild area? More information about creating a wildflower meadow can be found at http://www.plantlife.org.uk/things_to_do/grow_wild/wildmeadow/ or <http://www.growingschools.org.uk/Resources/Downloads/Final%20Wildflower%20garden.pdf> The book 'How to make a Wildlife Garden' by Chris Baines is also highly recommended.

The Science and Plants for Schools website (www.saps.org.uk) has lots of hints and tips for growing and studying plants in the classroom:
<http://www.saps.org.uk/attachments/article/307/SAPS%20Parts%20of%20a%20plant%20-%20partB.pdf>