**Plant Detectives Day Activity Choices**

We have developed a wide variety of ‘Plant Detectives’ activities linked to all aspects of a flowering plant’s life cycle. Please choose four main activities that are your ‘Must Dos’ and we will put together a day plan for your class based on your choices and including as many related activities as we can depending on the season and the length of your day with us.

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| **Activity** | **Description** | **Curriculum area covered** | **How long?** |
| Plant dress up introduction | A fun way to explore the structure and function of the parts of a plant | Yr 3: identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers | 15-20 mins |
| Build a plant team game | A fun way to reinforce the parts of a plant | Yr 3: identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers | 10-15 mins |
| Plant name game | Learn how to identify some common British wildflowers in a fun run-around ID key | Links to Yr4: Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment | 10mins |
| Plant Bingo Walk | Learn how to identify some common British wildflowers growing in our garden and/or nature reserve. | Links to Yr4: Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment | 20-30 mins |
| Plant ‘food factory’ | A lively way to develop understanding of the function of parts of a plant. Who are the ‘miners’, ‘truckers’ and ‘chefs’ inside a plant? Children become parts of the plant and must work together to ensure their plant ‘food factory’ functions smoothly, stays healthy and grows! | Yr3: identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots/stem/leaves.  Yr3: Investigate the ways in which water is transported within plants | 30 mins (split class in half and pair this activity with paper potters?) |
| Paper potters | Find out about seeds and the requirements for germination and growth, then plant up your own newspaper plant pot to take back to school (can provide follow up ideas for what to do with plants at school e.g experiment to do with requirements for growth etc) | Yr3: explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant | 30 mins (split class in half and pair this with food factory activity) |
| Germination game | Experience the challenge of being a seed: Can you collect all the things they need to germinate before being eaten by the hungry birds?! | Yr 3: explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant | 15-20 mins |
| Build a flower | With the help of a willing volunteer from your class we build a child-sized flower and explore its structure and function in more detail | Yr 3: explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal | 15-20 mins |
| Flower dissection | Working in pairs we take a closer look at flower structure by carefully dissecting specimens from our wild flower meadow, then mounting and labelling each part to take back to school. | Yr 3: explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal | 20 mins |
| Pollinator match up game | After discussing how plants have adapted their flower shapes to ensure successful pollination, play a class ‘snap’ game to match up plants and their pollinators: is your flower shaped like a landing platform, tuba, trumpet or obstacle course?! | Yr 3: explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal | 15 mins |
| Follow a pollinator | Working in small groups we explore our wildflower garden, observing and recording the colour and shape of flowers that are attracting pollinating insects- Are they attracted more to certain flower colours and shapes than others? | Yr 3: explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal | 20 mins |
| Pollination game | An active way to reinforce the process of pollination in flowering plants | Yr 3: explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal | 20 mins |
| Seed Bingo  & seed dispersal game | Following a discussion about the variety of seed types and shapes found in nature and reasons behind this, we play seed ‘bingo’ and sort seeds into groups with similar dispersal mechanisms. | Lifecycle of a flowering plant: seed dispersal | 20mins |
| Sycamore seed dispersal game | We become a sycamore tree using wind to spread its seeds- will all the seeds land where they can germinate successfully? How do sycamore trees improve their success rates? | Lifecycle of a flowering plant: seed dispersal | 10mins |
| Plant ‘splat’ plenary | A fun way to end the day and re-cap learning. | Can be tailored to re-cap any part of the plants curriculum. | 10 mins |

Please note the flower dissection and follow a pollinator activities are seasonally dependent (April-September only).

If you are visiting Carymoor in May, June or July you may also want to include a trip to our **Observational Bee Hive**- please ask when booking and we’ll do our best to include this in your day.