



# Science

## Plants

### Background Information

In this unit children have the opportunity to closely study plants and trees in the natural environment, taking measurements and making observational drawings. Children plant a seed and a bulb and compare them as they grow. They record changes in their plants in words and pictures, take measurements throughout the unit and finally draw bar charts to show the growth of the two plants. Children set up a comparative experiment to observe what plants need to grow well, and watch the germination process first hand by growing sunflowers. Children begin to learn about plants we eat, and understand that farming involves creating the right conditions for food crops to grow.



### In this unit the children will...

- Observe closely using simple equipment by recording observations of a variety of plants in the local environment.
- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants by planting seeds and bulbs.
- Perform simple tests by setting up a comparative test to understand what plants need to germinate and grow.
- Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions by giving ways we can tell that plants are living things.
- Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy by comparing the growth of seedlings under different conditions.
- Gather and record data to help in answering questions by measuring the results of a comparative test.
- Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy by explaining what conditions plants need to grow well.
- Use observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions by using the results of tests to suggest good conditions for growing plants for food.
- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants by comparing the growth of seeds and bulbs and measuring and recording the growth of them.

By the end of this unit....

**All children can:**

- Look closely at plants and trees.
- Record what they see by drawing or writing.
- Follow instructions to plant a seed and a bulb.
- Order the life cycle of a plant.
- Suggest how to care for a plant so it grows well.
- Give examples of food crops.
- Explain that plants are living things.

**Most children will:**

- Label the main parts of plants and trees.
- Describe the stages in the life cycle of a plant.
- Explain that plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow well.
- Make observational drawings of plants.
- Measure the growth of plans with a ruler.
- Record the growth of my plants in a bar chart.
- Use observations to explain how we can tell that plants are living things.
- Set up a simple comparative test.
- Make a simple prediction.

**Some children will:**

- Explain that different plants have different needs.
- Compare the growth of different plants,
- Give reasons for their answers.
- Use observations to suggest conditions that food crops need to grow well.



**Key Vocabulary**

Roots, stem, leaves, flower, trunk, branches, observation, diagram, seed, bulb, germinate, embryo, tunic, scales, bud, sprout, compare, comparative test, life cycle, life process, seedling, prediction, grow, table, bar chart.