

Starters for Science: Y2 Plants

Starters for Science are 4 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science alongside the key learning and vocabulary children are using at school. The activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to learn and talk about their science topic. Encourage children to use the correct vocabulary as they talk about what they are doing and finding out. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Key Learning:

For plants to successfully germinate, grow and survive, they have certain requirements. These usually include water, light and a suitable temperature.

When a plant's requirements are met it will grow and stay healthy.

Most plants grow from a seed or a bulb. Seeds and bulbs need water to grow but most do not need light as seeds and bulbs contain a store of food inside.

As seeds and bulbs like different temperatures, they are planted outside at different times of the year. This helps them to survive.

After the seed germinates it will start to grow roots and shoots, it becomes a seedling. With the right requirements for growth, seedlings continue to grow into mature plants.

Some plants have flowers, which develop into seeds. Sometimes those seeds are inside fruits and berries.

Different plants need different conditions to grow and be healthy. For example some plants like shady spots and some like full sunshine.

Vocabulary:

As Year 1 plus:

growth

grow

water

light

shade

sun

warm

cool

temperature

healthy

survive

soil

germinate

stages of growth

Vegetable varieties

Think about some different vegetables. Some you might like to eat and others you might dislike. Can you find out how they grow through doing some research? Are they all the same? Which bit of the plant do they come from? Do they grow under or above ground.

Grow a tomato

If you've had salad for lunch can you save two slices of your tomato and plant them in some shallow soil in two different pots.

Water one of the pots and keep it moist as it grows. However, leave the other one dry. Observe what happens carefully. Do you get any growing tomato plants?

Broad bean diary

In an empty jar, swirl a small amount of water around and then empty it. Make a piece of kitchen roll damp and then put it in the jar. Put a broad bean seed in the jar so it rests on the kitchen roll. Every few days, spray the bean and kitchen roll with a little water. Create a diary with diagrams and notes of your bean and how it grows.

The great seed hunt!

What seeds are there lurking in your kitchen? Do they all look the same? Collect some and group them by looking for similarities and differences. <https://www.stem.org.uk/rx33jq>