

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Term 4 and 5 – Science (plants and seasons)

Prior Knowledge/Key Knowledge

EYFS	Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what they have read in class.
Identify and discuss the different seasons	Weathers are associated with seasons and this has an impact on plants and trees. The length of the day varies depending on what season it is.
To find the names and features of common plants and trees	Plants can be identified by looking at the shape of their leaves and their petals. There are two types of trees - evergreens and deciduous trees.
To name parts of a plant and tree	Most plants including trees have roots, a stem and leaves. These all have different functions and keep the plants alive.

Key Skills

Field work	Work done outside to find out information about the areas we live in.
Investigation	Something we do to find out the answer to a question.
Observing closely, using simple equipment	We will experience different types of scientific enquiry, including practical activities, and make careful observations over time. With guidance, children will begin to notice patterns and relationships.
Performing simple tests	Children will use simple measurements and equipment (for example, hand lenses) to carry out simple tests, and talk about what they have found out and how they found it out.
Identifying and classifying	We will use simple features to compare living things and, with help, decide how to sort and group them.
Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions	Begin to recognise ways in which they might answer scientific questions from their observations. With help, they should record and communicate their findings in a range of ways and begin to use simple scientific language.
Gathering and recording data to help answer questions	Data can be used to classify information and present findings. We will begin to compare and contrast findings to make judgements, collect appropriate data and record as notes, diagrams, labels, charts etc.



Vocabulary

Seasons	There are four seasons in the year with different types of weather. These are spring, summer, autumn and winter.
Habitat	The home of an animal or plant. Almost every place on earth (from the hottest desert to the coldest areas) is a habitat for some kind of animal or plant.
Plant	A living thing that uses sunlight to make its own food and is made up of leaves, a stem and roots.
Wild plants	A wild plant seed grows where it falls. It doesn't need to be planted or cared for as it grows.
Garden plants	Plants that people choose to grow in their gardens.
Seeds	Grow into new plants.
Trunk	Similar to a stem, a trunk can be found on trees and also transports water and minerals around the tree.

Vocabulary continued

Weeds	Weeds are wild plants that grow in places where people don't want them.
Deciduous	A tree that loses its leaves each year.
Evergreen	A tree that keeps its green leaves all year round.
Root	Roots take in water and nutrients from the soil and keep the plant in the ground.
Stem	The main trunk of a plant which supports leaves and flowers. This is where plants store and transport food and water.
Leaf	A leaf is the part of a plant which makes the food from sunlight and the air around it.
Flower	A flower attract insects and birds. Insects are needed to bring pollen they have collected from other flowers so plants can make seeds.
Petals	A coloured part of the flower.
Pollen	A fine powder made by certain plants that is needed to make new seeds. Insects and birds take it from one plant to another.

Big Questions/Challenging Perceptions

How do we know plants are alive?
It is harder for children to understand a plant is alive, as it does not appear to move and does not talk!

