

Plants

Curriculum Links:

- Identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers
- 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
- Investigate the way in which water is transported within plants
- Explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal

Key Facts:

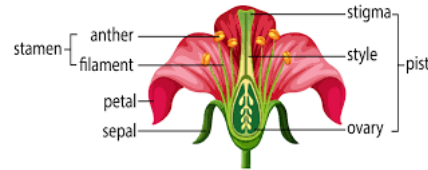
- The petals on the flower are usually bright so they can attract bees to collect pollen and produces seed. The seeds then grow into new plants—this is called germination.
- Leaves used carbon dioxide and sunlight to make food for plants. The stem carries water and nutrients from the roots to the rest of the plant. The stem also helps keep the plant upright
- The roots help anchor the plant and also absorb the water and nutrients from the soil
- Plants need: air, water, sunlight, nutrients, room to grow and a suitable temperature. The amount of these may vary depending in the type of plant
- Water is absorbed from the soil and then transported to the rest of the plant
- The flower's role is to create seeds so that new plants can grow
- Pollination occurs when pollen from the anther is transferred to the stigma by bees and insects. Pollen travels to the ovule, when this happens seeds are formed—this is fertilisation
- Seeds are dispersed so that germination can begin again

Possible experiences:

- Compare the effect of different factors on plants (amount of light, water etc)
- Place white carnation in dye to see how plants transport water
- Observe plant life cycles
- Dissect fruit to observe structure and how seeds are dispersed
- Dissect flowers and identify parts

We should already know:

- Things which are living and thing that are not
- Some common plants including deciduous and evergreen trees
- Plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow
- Seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants
- Plants and animals depend on one another to survive



Key Vocabulary



Anther	The part of the stamen which releases pollen
Bulb	A root which has grown into a flower or plant
Carbon Dioxide	A gas produced by animals breathing out
Deciduous	A tree that loses its leaves in autumn every year
Evergreen	A tree or bush which has green leaves all year
Fertilisation	In plants, when pollen meets the ovule to form a seed
Flower	The part of the plan which is brightly coloured and grow at the end of the stem
Fruit	Grows on a seed or a bush and contains a seed or stone. It is edible
Germination	When a seed starts to grow
Nutrients	Substances which help plants gorw
Ovule	A small egg
Petal	Thin coloured or white part which forms part of the flower
Pollination	Means to fertilise with pollen—often done by insects
Roots	The part of the plant which grows under-ground
Seed	The small, hard part which a new plant grows from
Stem	Thin, upright part of the plant on which the flower and leaves grow
Stigma	The top of the centre part of the flower which takes in pollen