



Sacred Heart Primary School Curriculum Theme Plan

Understanding the World Explore and name: Plants Reception - Spring



Rationale: Children begin to understand how they are affected and how they affect the world around them. Looking closely at nature (plants, including flowers and trees) helps them to work scientifically to spot similarities and differences that may be small but have a significant impact.

Pre-unit task: prompted mind-map for the chn to show what they know already about plants including what they need to grow, how many they can name, and their structure.

Attention Grabber: Beatrix Potter books, sun cushion, soil in a jar, water in a bottle, mini electric fan, flower clippings, ivy, brown leaves, magnifying glass,

Class story time books: The Giving Tree, Apple Pigs, The King and the Seed, Beatrix Potter selection, Moth.

Learning Objectives:

- *Explore the natural world around them*
- *Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside*
- *Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live*

Overview:

Lesson 1: Cold activity- pre-unit task

Lesson 2: What's in the box? Exploring the artefacts and making observations.

Lesson 3: School plant hunt – what plants do we have here in our garden? What do plants need to grow? Plant own seeds.

Lesson 4: Name that flower! Games and activities to learn a variety of flowers.

Lesson 5: Part of the flower. Can you name the parts of the flower? How are species different/the same?

Lesson 6: Is that my flower? Can you describe a flower for your partner to guess?

Lesson 7: Blind trust walk – Can you direct your blindfolded classmate to a tree? Can they find it again? What senses are you using?

Lesson 8: Name that tree! Games and activities to learn a variety of trees. Choose a tree and make comparisons of the leaves with your classmates and their leaf choice.

Lesson 9: What's that creepy crawler? How do mini-beasts affect plants?

Lesson 10: What have we learned about plants?

Practical activity: Planting a seed and keeping a plant diary to record observations over the term.

CST/SMSVC Links

Deforestation – why is this a problem? The importance of respecting nature. Littering, etc.

Cross Curricular Links

Maths – measuring your plant as it grows

Resources (found in staff room and greenhouse)

Magnifying glasses, jars, plant pots, soil, popsicle sticks, pictures of a variety of plants (flowers and trees) found in science drawer

Opportunities for enrichment:

Class trip: walk to Makins field to collect plants for observation

Gardening day: invite parents into school to plant seeds and do some weeding to refresh our outdoor space. Children to make choices about what to plant.

Impact/Assessment

Most Children will: know the name of some plants, name some parts of a plant, use a magnifying glass to look closely at a variety of plants talking about what they notice

Less Able Children will: know the name of one or two plants, talk about plants, use a magnifying glass to look closely at a variety of plants

More Able Children will: name some flowers and trees (deciduous and evergreen), describe the basic structure of a plant, work scientifically using a magnifying glass to make observations about plants and their changes with some support from an adult