

## Proposed sequence of activities for English

### Instructions for planting

This week we are going to be writing instructions on how to plant a seed. This could be any seed such as a sunflower. Another one is cress seeds (or other microgreens), these are quick and easy and don't have to involve soil. You could also do how to grow a bean plant alternatively you could do how to plant a bulb or how to plant a seedling or an already potted plant into soil. However if you don't want to do a plant that is okay. All of the steps can be applied for any other instructions. You could do a set of instructions for anything such as how to build a toilet roll rocket or a recipe such as how to make a cake.

Some ideas:

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/plants/vegetable-seeds-to-sow-in-may/>

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/plants/flower-seeds-to-sow-in-may/>

Activity 1: Today we are going to have a look at a set of instructions and their features.

When looking at instructions draw attention to: (see example below)

- the heading this normally says How to
- subheadings (you will need, equipment, ingredients, what to do)
- bullet points (this creates a list)
- numbers (so we know what order to do them in)
- imperative verbs (bossy verbs) such as put, cut, chop, mix, stir
- pictures
- adverbs (challenge) these tell you how to do something e.g. quickly, slowly, carefully.

Explain the different parts of the instructions and try and find them in a set of instructions like below:

The image shows a worksheet titled "How to Plant a Sunflower" with handwritten annotations. The title is underlined and labeled "Heading". Below it is a subheading "You will need" with a list of items: "A pot", "Soil", "Two sunflower seeds", "A watering can", and "A name label". A picture of two sunflowers is labeled "Picture". Below the picture is a subheading "What to do" with a list of seven numbered steps. The steps are: 1) Fill the pot nearly to the top with some soil. 2) Dampen the soil with a little water from the watering can. 3) Place two sunflower seeds onto the soil carefully. 4) Cover the seeds gently with some more soil. 5) Pour a little more water onto the soil. 6) Water your sunflower once a day. 7) Wait patiently for about 2-3 weeks for your sunflower to grow. The annotations include: "subheading" pointing to "You will need"; "bullet points" pointing to the list of items; "subheading" pointing to "What to do"; "numbers" pointing to the numbered steps; "imperative verb (bossy)" pointing to the verbs in the steps; "adverb" pointing to "carefully" in step 3; and "instructions in order" pointing to the entire list of steps.

You could use this example or any other instructions you have. (see below)

Afterwards have a go at following a set of instructions (this can be for anything such as a recipe or to build something) and talk about the different features of the instructions you are following and how they help you. E.g. numbers tell you what order, pictures show you how it's meant to look.

### Activity 2

Learn about how to plant a seed. You could watch a video first and discuss the process.

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- How to plant a sunflower seed  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=noOsQZxpjRc>
- How to grow a bean plant  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGFUWqSt-sl>
- How to grow cress  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wc\\_X6dOEt00](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wc_X6dOEt00)

and /or you could use these to help you learn how to plant a seed, bulb etc. and use them to help you sequence a set of instructions.

<https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to-grow-plants/how-to-grow-cucumbers-from-seed/>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/ks1-planting-bulbs-activity-instructions-t-sc-2549626>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-859-how-to-grow-a-plant-display-posters>

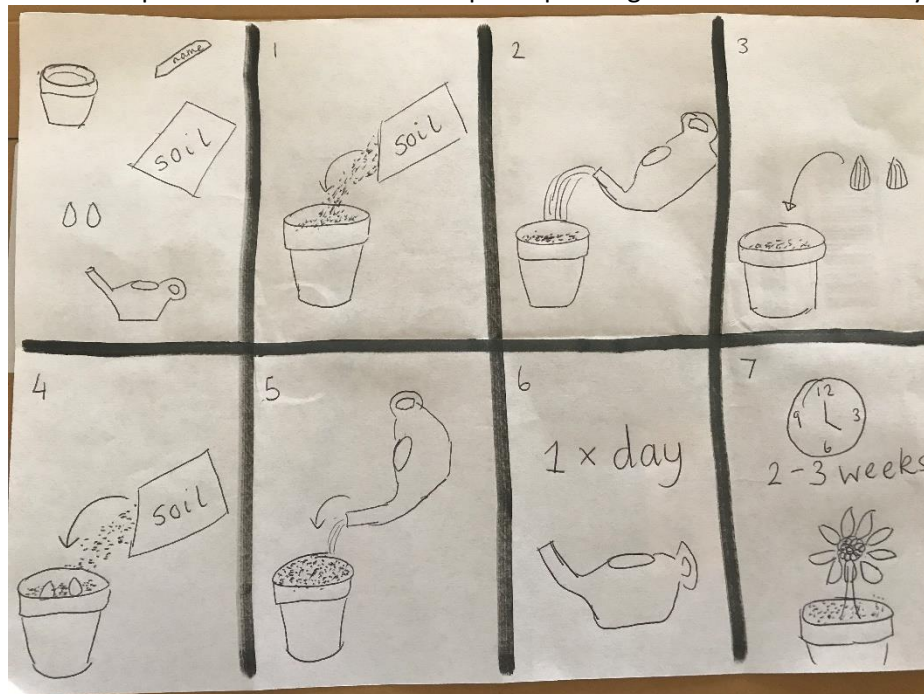
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<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-tp-6265-planting-bulbs-cards>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/how-to-grow-a-bean-display-posters-t-t-2570000>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2546630-how-to-grow-cress-display-posters->

After learning about how to do it recap over the process. It's important to retell the steps in order and focus on the verbal instructions. What did they need? What did they do first? Second? third? Then draw pictures of the different steps for planting a seed to create a story map.



Activity 3 Play Simon says. Focus on using an imperative verb first e.g. put, touch, point, sit, stand. Let children have a go at being Simon and having to tell you the action first e.g. Simon says touch your nose.

When we play Simon says, Simon is being bossy. He is telling us what to do.

Can you think of any more bossy words. Chop, mix, stir, spread, sprinkle, get,

Explain to children that these bossy verbs are called imperative verbs.

Examples of imperative

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-c-254066-imperative-verbs-word-mat>

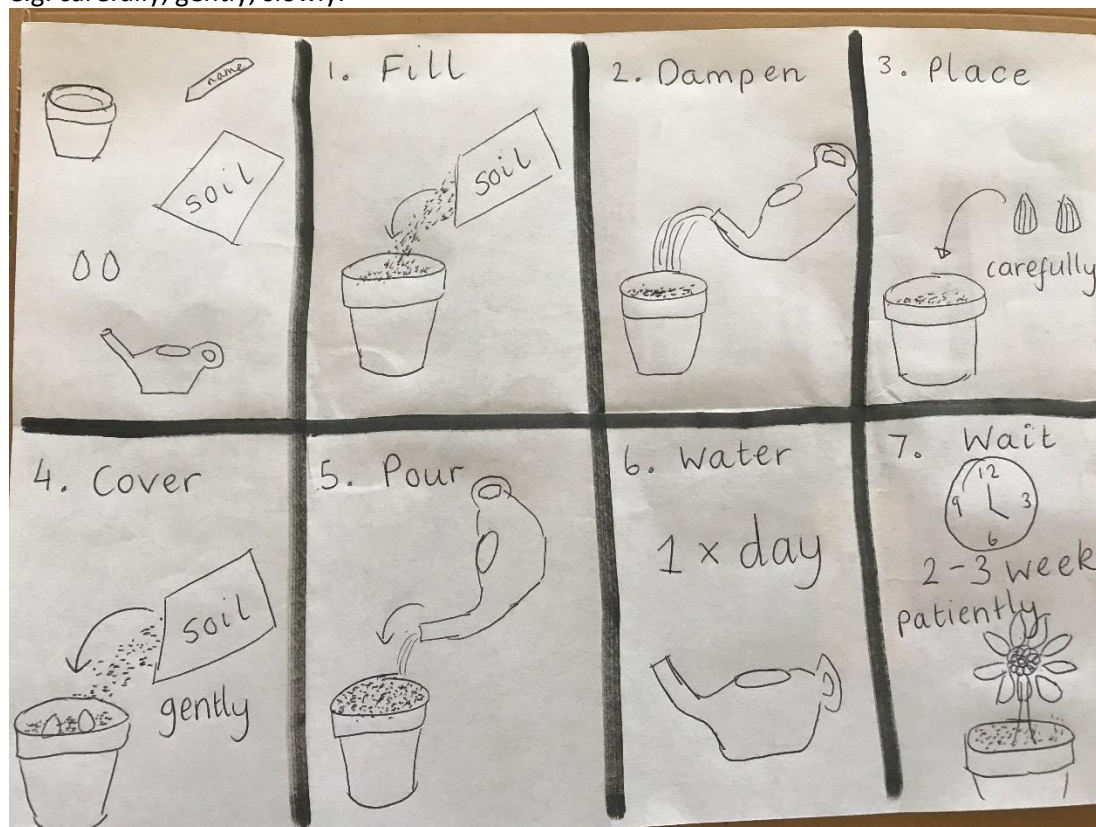
<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t2-e-294-instruction-verbs-display-posters>

See how many bossy words you can come up with. Would you need the same bossy words in different instructions e.g. Would you need stir if your instructions were about exercise? What bossy words would we need if we were writing instructions about how to brush our teeth or how to wash your hands? Have a go at practising using imperative verbs in instructions you could do this verbally or written underneath each other using a bossy word first.

e.g.

1. Get your toothbrush.
2. Turn on the tap.
3. Wet your toothbrush.

Look back at the story map you drew. You could cut up the pictures and put these in order or leave them together. What would be the bossy verb for each of these? Add these onto your story map or cut out pictures. Practise retelling these in order. You could also add on any key adverbs e.g. carefully, gently, slowly.



#### Activity 4- Following instructions

Recap over retelling the instructions in order and using imperative verbs. Use the story map to help you if needed.

Today we are going to actually do the planting of the seeds. So you will need to gather all the bits you will need and then using your story map follow your instructions. Make sure you verbally retell the instructions as you do each part.

You could take pictures of each step of the process or even video it to help you write your instructions tomorrow.

#### Activity 5

## Proposed sequence of activities for English

Look back at the set of instructions pre written for a different activity. Recap over the different features. Such a heading/title, sub heading/title, numbers, pictures, bullet points, imperative verbs.

Today we are going to write our instructions on how to plant a seed.  
You could use a template if you want or write it on paper.

Start with your heading. What are the instructions about?

Then think about the subheading what needs to go here? (equipment or what you need)

Look at your story map to help you.

Use bullet points to make a list.

Then what comes next? What would be the next subheading?(what to do)

Then write your instructions in order using numbers, imperative verbs and any adverbs.

See below for resources which could be used.

Activity 1

Heading

How to Plant a Sunflower


subheading

You will need

- A pot
- Soil
- Two sunflower seeds
- A watering can
- A name label

bullet points

list



Picture

What to do → subheading

- 1) Fill the pot nearly to the top with some soil.
- 2) Dampen the soil with a little water from the watering can.
- 3) Place two sunflower seeds onto the soil carefully.
- 4) Cover the seeds gently with some more soil.
- 5) Pour a little more water onto the soil.
- 6) Water your sunflower once a day.
- 7) Wait patiently for about 2-3 weeks for your sunflower to grow.

numbers

imperative verb (bossy)

adverb

Instructions in order

## How to Plant a Sunflower

### You will need

- A pot
- Soil
- Two sunflower seeds
- A watering can
- A name label



### What to do

- 1) Fill the pot nearly to the top with some soil.
- 2) Dampen the soil with a little water from the watering can.
- 3) Place two sunflower seeds onto the soil carefully.
- 4) Cover the seeds gently with some more soil.
- 5) Pour a little more water onto the soil.
- 6) Water your sunflower once a day.
- 7) Wait patiently for about 2-3 weeks for your sunflower to grow.

# Imperative Verbs

add

colour

face

move

run

stretch

bake

cook

fill

paint

score

take

beat

cut

fold

pick

skip

tear

bend

draw

fry

pour

spoon

turn

boil

eat

mix

rotate

step

walk

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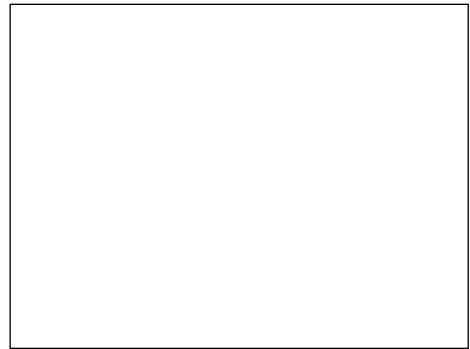
## Template

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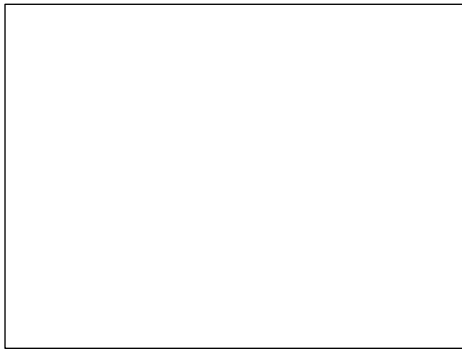
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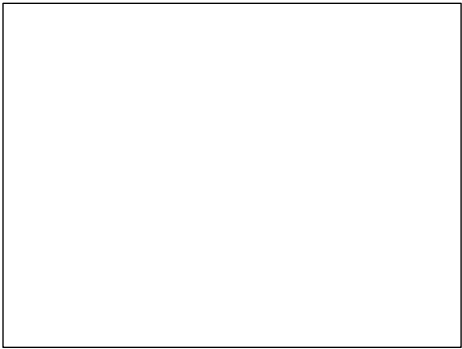
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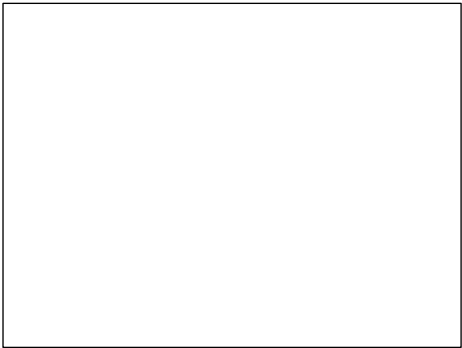
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