

Proposed sequence of activities for English

Week 1: Plants Poem

Day 1

If possible go on a walk or look in your garden at all the different plants and flowers.

How many different plants, flowers and trees can you name?

Go on a flower/ plant hunt and see how many different types you can find. Were they all in the same area? How many of the same flower did you find? Which did you mind the most of? Which did you find the least of? Describe your favourite plant/ flower or tree and explain why. How is it the same or different from other flowers/plants or trees. Think about whether every country has the same plants. Why not?

You could use: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-2545798-spring-flower-hunt-checklist>
<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-1103-plants-and-flowers-hunt-sheet>

Day 2

Research your favourite flower/plant or tree. This is your choice of whatever plant you like or want to find out more about. You could choose a carnivorous plant such as a Venus fly trap or something like a succulent.

Where do they grow? What does it need to grow? What time of year does it grow? Any interesting unusual facts? Write down facts. You could find out about the parts of the plant and label a picture.

Some suggested sites:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities/grow-it>
<https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/plants.html>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/plants/>

Carnivorous plant information

<https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/carnivorous-plants.html>

<https://www.edenproject.com/learn/for-everyone/carnivorous-plants-facts>

<https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/plants/carniverous-plants>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/plants/meat-eating-plants/>



Day 3

Find and look at or look at pictures of your chosen plant, flower or tree.

Draw a picture of it and write a description about it. Write different adjectives about your chosen plant, flower or tree. Try to use expanded noun phrases. Challenge yourselves to use different vocabulary and words e.g. nasty using vicious or instead of lovely using beautiful, striking, attractive. Use a thesaurus to help

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english-thesaurus>

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Think carefully about what does it look like? Does it have any colour? Does it have any petals? Is it tall or short? What does it feel like? What shapes can you see? Could you use alliteration?
Alliteration: all the words begin with the same letter. E.g. slender, straight and sturdy stem

Day 4-

Remind children about not all poems have to rhyme. The poem we are writing is not a rhyming one it will be a free verse poem. Share the example below. A free verse poem has no rules and the poem should focus on describing their chosen plant/ flower or tree. You could use the example to help structure your own poem.

e.g. Venus Fly Trap

Appealing, green venus fly trap (expanded noun phrase)

Innocent insects perch on the edge (alliteration)

but are swiftly engulfed as quick as lightening. (simile)

With its attractive colours and soothing touch

Behind it's vicious, jagged teeth, a devil is at work. (expanded noun phrase and metaphor)

Using the information gathered and the descriptive words they have already come up with start to form sentences describing your flower/plant or tree. These do not need to be in any order yet.

You could incorporate some the facts you have found out such as where it grows, what it needs to survive and grow. Challenge children to use similes and metaphors.

Simile: saying something is 'as' or 'like' something else e.g. the venus fly trap is as ferocious as a lion attacking pray or the striking petals were like golden jewels in the glistening sun.

Metaphor: saying something is something else e.g. The tree is a giant in the sky.

If following the structure above get children to come up with a few examples for each to use. You could organise it like this to help them.

Expanded noun phrases	
Alliteration	
Similes	
Metaphors	

Day 5

Write your free verse poem using sentences. Focus on using lots of description and the different features such as similes, metaphors and alliteration.

Share the poem again

Venus Fly Trap

Appealing, green venus fly trap (expanded noun phrase)

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Innocent insects perch on the edge (alliteration)
but are swiftly engulfed as quick as lightening. (simile)
With its attractive colours and soothing touch
Behind it's vicious, jagged teeth, a devil is at work. (expanded noun phrase and metaphor)

Children will use their sentences and chose of words from yesterday and start to organise and use these in sentences.

Children could draw a picture to go with your poem.