

Working scientifically skills

The activities this week focus on plants as this would have been a topic many schools would be looking at in the summer term. Plants is a National Curriculum topic in years 1, 2 and 3 but it is a key concept which also comes into the living things and their habitats topics in years 4 5 and 6.

1. [Germinating socks](#)
2. [Resourceful growing- growing vegetables from scraps](#)
3. [What parts of the plant can I eat?](#)

Try to encourage children to think about the working scientifically skills they are using when completing these activities.



Explorify

If your children have not tried some of the activities in the [Plants Explorify blog](#) there are some great ideas and videos covering germination, water-proofing on plant leaves and seeds.



Documentaries or TV - BBC iPlayer

The British Garden: Life and Death on Your Lawn

This documentary, hosted by Chris Packham, focusses on wildlife we find in our gardens and it is filmed here in Hertfordshire in Welwyn Garden City. It discusses how the environment changes throughout the seasons and focusses on the challenges living things have to face. A wide range of science topics is covered including reproduction in plants and animals, predator-prey adaptations, habitats and types of animals. They even conducted a mini science experiment to find out whether snails have a homing instinct.

After watching, children could show their understanding through:

- Creating a poster to show how the garden changes in the different seasons
- Write about the lifecycle of one of the animals featured
- Draw and write about one of the animals including its adaptations
- Write an information leaflet about how to maintain a wildlife-friendly garden

Nature Feature

Last Friday we released a blog on [five ways to explore nature at home](#). Why not share some of the ideas with parents and carers to encourage everyone to engage with nature.

