



Plants – Science

Year Two - Term 5

Parts of a plant and what they need to grow.

Prior Knowledge / Key Knowledge

Prior knowledge Year 1	There are many different kinds of plants, including trees, vines and grasses. Plants have lots of different parts. Some trees lose their leaves in the winter (deciduous). Some keep their leaves through the year (evergreen). Some plants are 'flowering plants' – they grow flowers on them.
Water and nutrients	Plants need water and nutrients to survive. Plants are able to get water from the soil through their roots. They can also catch water in their leaves. Without water, seeds and bulbs will not germinate.
Temperature	Plants need the temperature to be just right for them to grow properly. If it is too hot, they may burn and wilt. If it is too cold, they may freeze and die. This is why there are less plants at the poles and the deserts.
Light	Plants need lots of sunlight to help them grow. Plants do not eat food. They instead use sunlight to make their own food. Too little light will leave plants weak. Some plants need lots of sunlight, others need only a little.
Space and time	Plants need room for their roots and stems to be able to grow. Without enough room, they may not grow large enough. Plants also need time – it can take days, months or even years for them to grow.



Vocabulary	
seed	A small object produced by a plant from which a new plant can grow.
bulb	A bulb is the part of some plants, mostly under the dirt, that stores food while the plant is resting from growing.
shoot	When a plant sprouts, it grows new shoots. A shoot grows upwards from the seed or plant to find sunlight.
leaf	The green flat part that grows from a plant.
stem	The middle part of the part that grows up from the ground and supports the branches, leaves, flowers or fruits
roots	The part of the plant that usually grows underground.
temperature	Temperature is how warm or cold something or somewhere is. Some plants like cooler temperatures and some like warmer temperatures.
nutrition	Food or nourishment. Plants make their own food in their leaves using sunlight.
germination	When the conditions are right, the seed soaks up water and swells, and the tiny new plant bursts out of its shell. This is called germination.
sunlight	All plants need light from the sun to grow well. Some plants need lots of sunlight, some need less
seed dispersal	When seeds move away from the parent plant by fruit, wind or animals.

Key skills / Investigation Focus	
Key skills	Performing a simple test and observing closely. To measure and compare plant growth
Pupil Led Investigation	What is the most important thing a plant needs to survive?

Big Questions / Challenging Perceptions



- How can you tell if something is a plant?
- Why don't all plants look the same?
- Do you need big seeds to grow big plants?

