

Sticky plant boards

Identifying plant parts

Outdoor lesson

primary

Great for...

- **Science**
- **Life processes** such as reproduction and growth
- **Citizenship** caring for and nurturing the natural world

Activity

- 1 Discuss the different parts of flowering plants and their roles.
- 2 Give each child a 'sticky board' (see below).
- 3 Allow the children to explore a chosen area of your school grounds and select a variety of different plants. They should carefully take a piece of each to attach to their board (a petal from one flower, a leaf from another, a piece of stem from another etc).
- 4 Using a pencil, on the piece of card alongside the samples, get them to identify and annotate the different parts of the plant.

What you need

- **A piece of card** for each child (preferably re-used – from a cereal box, for example) with a 10cm strip of double-sided sticky tape running along the middle
- **Pencils**
- **An area of the grounds** with a few different types of plant

Preparation

- Discuss the importance of environmental stewardship and being gentle with the plants, taking only one small piece from each so that the process is not ecologically destructive.
- Emphasise how important flowers are as a food source for pollinating insects, which do us a great service.
- Ensure there are no rare wildflowers or plants in the chosen area.

- Make the children aware of plants such as nettles and thistles which shouldn't be handled without gloves.

Less challenging

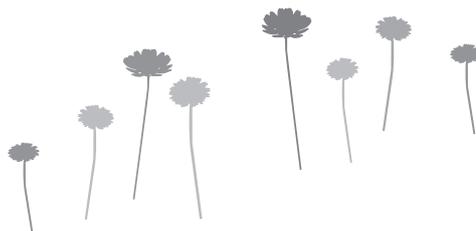
- Have the children select any parts of plant material they can find, looking for different colours and textures.
- Explore pollination by getting the children to pollinate the flowers with their own 'pollination wand' (using, for example, a cotton bud).

More challenging

- Make annotated 'scientific' drawings using the plant samples.
- Observe any insects on and around the plants. What kind of insects are they? What might they eat? Create simple food chains based on the flora and fauna observed.

Your notes

Use this space to evaluate the activity



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