# **Plants:** Life Cycles

#### Aim:

To observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants by understanding the life cycle of plants.

I can explain the life cycle of plants.

To use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions by giving ways we can tell that plants are living things.

I can suggest a way we can tell that plants are living things.

#### **Success Criteria:**

I can describe stages in the life cycle of a plant.

I can order the life cycle of a plant.

I can explain that plants are living things. I can explain something plants do that shows us that plants are living things.

# **Key/New Words:**

Life cycle, life process, sprout, seedling.

#### Resources:

**Lesson Pack** 

Mini whiteboards and pens - 1 class set

Scissors

Glue

Individual planted sunflower seeds and narcissus bulbs.

A torch and a water spray bottle to use as drama prompts.

## **Preparation:**

Plants Growth Table Activity Sheet - 1 per child

Differentiated Sunflower Life Cycle Activity Sheet - 1 per child

**Prior Learning:** 

Children will have planted a sunflower seed and a narcissus bulb in lesson 1. It will be helpful if children have an understanding of the parts of flowering plants.

### **Learning Sequence**



**Seeds and Bulbs:** Remind children of the seeds and bulbs they planted in the previous lesson. Children measure the growth of their plants with a ruler, and record the height in cm on the **Plant Growth Table Activity Sheet**. Discuss what should be recorded in the table if the plants have not yet sprouted. Keep these sheets safe for the use in the coming lessons.





**Plants are Living Things:** Introduce the idea that plants are alive. How can we tell that plants are living things? Give children time to discuss their ideas, and ask each pair to record their answers on a whiteboard. If children get stuck, encourage them to consider how we can tell that humans and other animals are living things, and to draw similarities. Share ideas and discuss.





**Life Processes:** Watch the BBC learning clip to explore the life processes of plants. Explain the 7 life processes in simple terms. At each stage ask the children as a class to make comparisons with the life processes in humans and other animals.





Life Cycles: Introduce the idea of life cycles and talk children through the life cycle of a bean plant.





Sunflower Life Cycle: Children complete the differentiated Sunflower Life Cycle Activity Sheets.





Children cut out the pictures and order the stages of the life cycle of a sunflower.



Children order the stages of the life cycle and use the writing frame to write a sentence about each stage.



Children write a description of the life cycle and order the stages.





**Let's Pretend...** Using the **Lesson Presentation** or the **Sunflower Life Cycle Drama Prompt Sheet**, lead the children through a dramatic enactment of the life cycle of a plant. Use a torch to represent sunlight and a water spray to represent rain. You may wish to perform this activity to a suitable piece of music.

# **Task**it

Exploreit: Investigate the life cycles of other plants and animals. Why not make individual Life Cycle Lapbooks?

**Watch**it: Watch this **BBC** clip to explore the life cycle of a banana.

**Read**it: Use 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar 'by Eric Carle and this beautiful Activity Pack to explore the life cycle of a butterfly.

