

Description

Explore the parts of a plant and dissect a flower!

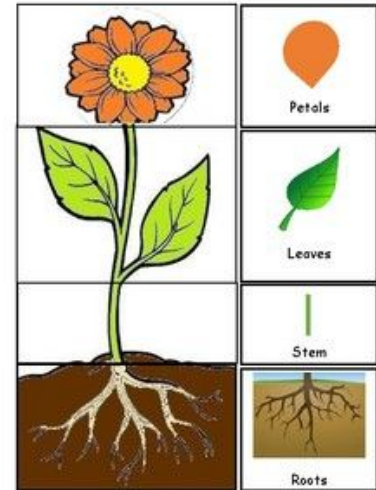
- Age: 3+
- Time: 20 minutes

Objectives

- Child will be able to identify at least one part of a plant.
- Child will practice exploring parts of a plant.

Vocabulary

- Roots: hold the plant in the ground and take water and food from the soil
- Stem: main stalk of a plant
- Leaves: grows from stem and makes food for the plant
- Petal/Flower: a plant part that makes seed



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Materials

- Magnifying glass
- Glue sticks
- crayons
- Tray or paper placemat
- Toothpick or tweezers
- Flowers
- Different plants with roots (starter plants at nurseries are great)
- Parts of a plant handout

Materials Preparation

- Pick/buy flowers
- Print handouts
- Prep shared materials bin
- Poster or live plant with all parts of a plant (roots, stem, leaf, flower)

Safety Precaution

- Can eliminate toothpicks or buy flat tip toothpicks; pollen allergy

Implementation

Introduction

Did you know plants have body parts just like us? Explore different plants. What do they have in common? What's different?

Procedure

1. Read book and explore parts of a plant. Draw or use a poster to identify parts as you go.

2. Allow children to explore and dissect parts of a plant on their own.
3. Have children match and paste each real part of a plant to the handout.
4. Label parts, if age appropriate.

Questions to Prompt Inquiry

1. What do you notice about the plants?
2. What do they have in common?
3. Why do you think they have these parts?

Conclusion

Plants have “adaptations” just like animals to help them survive. They have body parts just like us to help them survive. Review the different plant parts. “Why are plants important?” (help make oxygen to help us breath, help remove gases in the air to help us breathe better, make food for humans and animals, etc.) How we they make more plants (flowers)? Next time you see a flower you like, instead of picking it, let it live to make more plants and whisper “thank you” to the plant.

Tips and Suggestions

Activity Extensions

- Plant a seed and watch it grow! Track it’s growth. Lima beans are quickest and easiest.
- Experiment with color absorption by placing white carnations in different colored waters.

Adapting to Home/Classroom/Public space

- Groups of 2-3 are fine per dissection.

Learn More!

- a. Links to learn more: <https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/plant-structure.html>
- b. Reading recommendations:
 - a. Parts of a Flower (First Step Nonfiction — Pollination) by Candace Ransom
 - b. Roots, Stems, Leaves, and Flowers: Let's Investigate Plant Parts by Ruth Owen