

PSHE learning springboards

Pappus

Hands-on growing

Feeling welcome and valued – caring for plants

Aim: Pupils nurture living plants as they grow and feel pride in their efforts.

Hands-on growing tasks involve children in feelings of ownership, control, care and connection, which are so essential to their mental health and wellbeing. If time and resources are scarce, just growing salad cress seeds is a start, and move on to seeds in compost and perhaps in time, creating a school allotment.



More Springboards

- Science Learning Springboard: Food growing
- Maths Learning Springboard: Broad beans
- Pappus training resources: Indoor plants

Global citizenship: a performance

Music, art, poetry and performance

Aim: Pupils discuss making our planet more equal, fair and sustainable, becoming aware of and understanding their place in the wider world.

Discuss the main issues in global news right now. Which do pupils feel are the most urgent or important? Why? What will the impact of these issues be on their adult years?

Listen to these or other song examples for creative or expressive arts inspiration: create spoken word poetry, rap or doggerel, an improvised piece of music, a sculpture or a dance performance to express deeply felt opinions.



Little Plant song with Ernie from Sesame Street
John Denver, The Gardening song
Lava by Israel by Kamakawiwo'ole

www.pappusproject.eu

Cycle of life

Observe a bean's life, from seed to seed

Aim: Understand the key common features in a cycle of life

Place damp paper towel or cotton wool into a small glass jar. Sandwich a broad bean seed between the side of the jar and the paper towel, so it can be seen. Place the jar on a light windowsill and keep the paper towel moist.

- What does the bean need to survive?
- What will happen at the end of its growing season? What's left after the plant withers?

Make regular observational, labelled drawings as the seed germinates, splits to produce a root and then develops a leaf. If possible, plant the seedling outdoors and continue to record its growth. Harvest – and replant - the seeds, once the plant begins to die off.

More springboards

- Maths Learning Springboard: Data handling.
- Stories about growing – for example Jack and the Bean Stalk.
- Link to science and literacy by keeping accurate botanical and labelled drawings.
- Link to maths with daily measurements and comparing growth rates for each bean.

Assembly idea: we can all make a difference

Food webs and food banks

Aim: With appropriate sensitivity to your own school's demographic, pupils recognise that some humans and animals go hungry and that we can help.

Assemblies UK



Questions: If there are millions of people and animals in the world that are hungry, how can we as individual people help? How do humans rely on plants and animals for survival? What is a food web? What happens if part of the web disappears?

Answers: Encourage pupils to think about the effect of small interventions such as donating to a food bank or planting wildflowers. What about campaigning, like Greta Thunberg? What difference could reducing plastic have, or picking up litter? What is their favourite food? What impact does being able to eat that food have on the environment?

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