

Welcome to The Great Plant Hunt



Learning outcomes

- Seeds come from a fruit, which comes from a flower
- Seeds carry all the information needed to make plants
- There are a huge variety of seeds from which plants grow
- Seeds need water to grow
- Can identify and name some common UK plants
- Can identify parts of a plant and can point out how they differ
- Can identify differences between two habitats and suggest reasons for this difference

Concepts

Plants are found all over the world, in hot and cold places, in wet and in dry places, at sea level and on mountains. Plants have adapted to survive in many different environments. By looking around our local environment we can see the marvellous ways that plants survive in the most amazing places.

Every plant has lots of things in common with other plants as well as its own special survival structures. Darwin was lucky to have the chance to sail on the Beagle and discover many amazing plants in other countries. He collected many plants and their seeds and brought them back to the UK.

Today plant scientists around the world are still discovering amazing plants and collecting them in order to study them.

In these activities, the children are the 'Discoverers', hunting for the amazing plants that grow in their part of the world. They will see the similarities and differences between plants in different habitats, collect specimens and study them in simple experiments.

Meet the Plant Hunters

- Read aloud Chapter 3 called 'Darwin the Discoverer' from the *Following in Darwin's footsteps* storybook to find out how Darwin worked and to set the context for the childrens' work.
- Introduce Dan the Plant Hunter by reading out his postcard and download the video from Dan from The Great Plant Hunt website at www.greatplanthunt.org
- Watch Dan, a real life Plant Hunter, working in the field doing just the kind of observing and recording the children will be doing.
- These resources can be used for an assembly about the project, or to present in class to introduce the project.

