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Introduction

Integrating Science Explorations across the Curriculum is a resource for use with primary students studying CSF levels 1 and 2. This book contains six sections that may be used as teaching or supplementary units. Each unit provides fun and exciting opportunities for students to explore science across curriculum areas such as maths, art, drama, language, music and SOSE. While building a better understanding of science concepts, students will also develop such skills as brainstorming, listening, predicting, inferring, observing, speaking and illustrating.

Each unit begins with an original poem that introduces students to the basic concepts of the unit and some units also include a Little Book that students create, read and take home. The Little Books may be enlarged and made into Big Books for classroom use or the unit opener poem pages may be enlarged or displayed on an overhead projector and used instead of Big Books.

In addition, each unit includes some or all of the following; games, songs, art projects, language activities, display board ideas, sample session plans, a culminating activity, a parent letter and curriculum connection activities that may be chosen to fit the needs of your classroom and your teaching style.

Plants

Learning Outcome: On completion of this unit, level 1 children will be able to identify human needs and the needs of other living things. Level 2 children will be able to describe how body structures survive in their environment.

Presenting the Sessions

Specific Objectives: Students will learn the ways plants are used, the parts of the plant, how seeds become plants, what seeds and plants need to grow, photosynthesis, what parts of plants are eaten and the different kinds of leaves.

Unit Poem and Little Book: 'Planting Seeds'

Session 1

Plants grow all over the Earth. Without plants, there would be no life on Earth. Earth is the only planet that has plants on it. The other planets in our solar system are too close or too far away from the sun for plants to grow. Earth is in just the right place and Earth is the only planet we know of that has life on it.

Teach students the following action rhyme to 'Peas Porridge Hot'. Have student partners face each other and hit thighs/hands/partner's hands while repeating the poem:

Some planets are too hot.

(Hit thighs with both hands, clap own hands, partners clap right hands)

Some planets are too cold.

(Hit thighs with both hands, clap own hands, partners clap left hands)

But Earth is in the perfect spot

(Hit thighs with both hands, clap own hands, partners clap right hands, then left hands)

For many plants to grow.

(Hit thighs with both hands, clap own hands, partners clap both hands)

Plants are very important to us in many ways. We depend on plants for their beauty and for many products that we use. But most of all, we need plants for the air that we breathe and the food that we eat. We need plants to live.

Plants such as trees, shrubs, grass and flowers grow all around us. They make our world beautiful and give us much pleasure. People decorate their homes, yards, clothes and bodies with plants. People grow vegetable plants such as peas, beans, potatoes and carrots. And, they grow fruit plants such as trees and vines that give us apples, peaches, strawberries, grapes and watermelons.

People also grow grass (cereal) plants such as wheat, corn and rice. The grass plants are very important to us. People use wheat to make flour. Much of our food, such as bread, cereal and biscuits is made from flour. Many of our animals only eat grass plants. They graze in the fields and are called grazers.

People need plants for thousands of products that we use every day. Trees give us wood to build our houses, furniture and fires. Trees also give us wood to make pencils and all kinds of paper