

LKS2 – Lesson Plan 1 - ART

How can we show the life cycle of a plant through art?

Aim: To explore the stages of a plant's life cycle and represent these stages creatively through visual art.	Key Words: life cycle, seed, grow, germinate, roots, stem, leaves, flower, pollination, observe, illustrate	Preparation: - Diagrams or videos showing the plant life cycle - Real plants or flowers (or photos if not available) - Art materials: coloured pencils, watercolours, pastels, black pens, large paper - Plant life cycle sequencing cards - Optional: sketchbooks, magnifying glasses
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Prior Learning: Children have learned the basic parts of a plant and have observed how plants grow over time.

WC / PT	<u>Warm-up:</u> Display images of different stages in a plant's life: seed, seedling, growing plant, flowering plant. Ask children: - What's happening in each picture? - Can you put them in the correct order? - What helps a plant grow? Introduce the term "life cycle" and briefly explain each stage.	0-5 mins
WC	<u>Main Teach:</u> Using a real plant or a time-lapse video, walk through the plant's journey from seed to flower. Discuss: - What happens first? - What helps it grow? - What do we notice at each stage? Then show examples of art inspired by plants and nature — such as botanical sketches, watercolour flowers, or symbolic art showing life and growth. Introduce today's creative challenge:  Can you show a plant's life cycle using art instead of words?	5-10 mins

I / S	<u>Activity:</u> Create a Life Cycle Art Wheel or Storyboard Children create either: 1. A circular diagram (life cycle wheel) with four segments (Seed → Germination → Growth → Flowering) 2. A zigzag or comic-style storyboard showing each stage in sequence They draw, colour, and label each stage using their science knowledge. Encourage creative expression — some may use bright colours, others fine detail, others patterns to show change.	10-30 mins
I	<u>Extension Challenge:</u> Children add micro-details to their drawings — e.g., draw the roots below the soil, show raindrops watering the seed, or a bee pollinating the flower. Optional: Add textured elements using collage or rubbing techniques to mimic leaves and soil.	30-35 mins
WC	<u>Plenary:</u> Gallery walk: children move around to view each other's plant life cycles. Ask: • What have we learned about how plants grow? • How did the art help you remember the stages? • What was your favourite part to draw?	35-40 mins

WC – Whole Class

PT – Partner Talk

I – Independent

S - Support

Challenge A	Write a short explanation or narrative: <i>"First, the seed is planted in the soil. Then it begins to grow roots..."</i>
Challenge B	Use rulers to measure real leaves or plant stems and add measurements to the drawings. Count the petals, leaves, or stages and label them with numbers.