

The Hunt Goes On...

There's never been a better time to get involved in the Great Plant Hunt and enjoy fun and free educational activities in the classroom, online and outdoors.



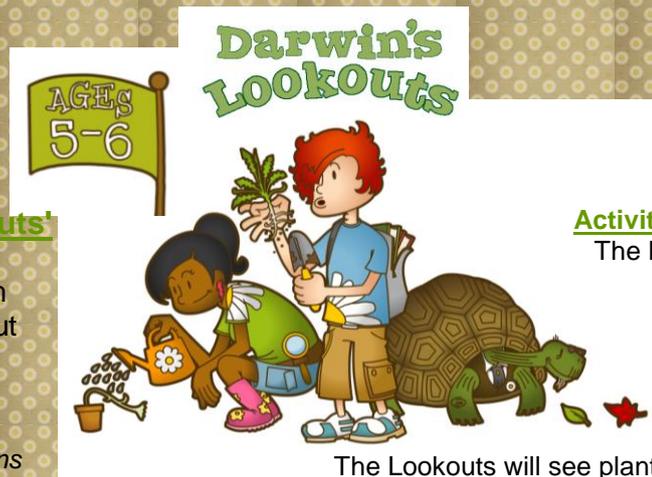
For everything you need to take part, simply visit:

www.greatplanthunt.org

"Incredible - one of the best educational projects I have ever come across in 15 years of education" - *Paul Stone, Teacher*

The Great Plant Hunt - Activity Summaries

Engaging activities for children aged 5-11, all clearly linked to the primary science curriculum



5-6 year-olds are the 'Lookouts'

looking out for plants in the local environment and examining them carefully. They'll be learning about plant parts and spotting similarities and differences.

Activity 2: Spot the plant - 2 lessons

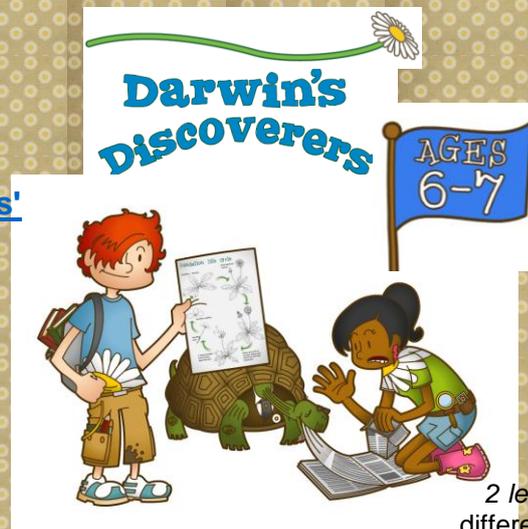
The Lookouts go on a second walk to find plants from the Identikit. They'll use observation skills to compare and match living plants with the Identikit.

Activity 1: Thinking Walk - 3 lessons

The Lookouts look at parts of a plant and then go on a walk to find wild native plants. Ways to use the plants and leaves collected are suggested or you can invent your own!

Activity 3: Help! - 1 lesson

The Lookouts will see plants that are wilted and unhealthy. Using the worksheet, ask the children to arrange a set of cartoon pictures into the correct order.



6-7 year-olds 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.

Activity 2: Spot the plant - 2 lessons

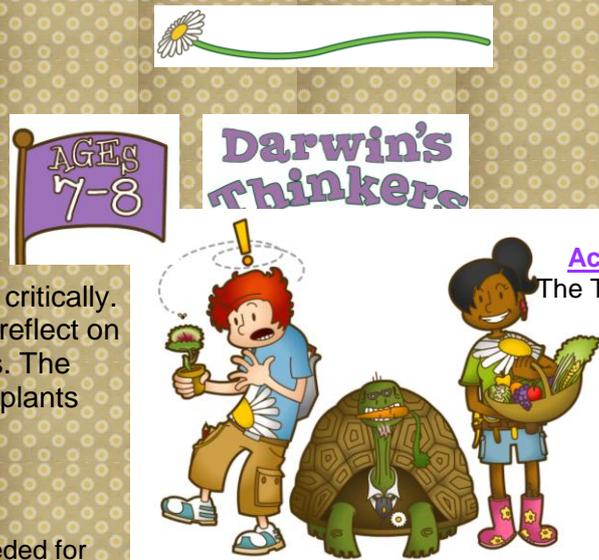
The Discoverers will work on several observation projects using the plants collected on the walk - download the details or invent your own!

Activity 1: Thinking Walk

2 lessons - The Discoverers go on a walk and find wild native plants in two contrasting areas - eg wet/dry. Then they'll record and describe the different habitats and plants they discovered.

Activity 3: Sorting and sprouting

2 lessons- The Discoverers will observe different types of seed to see the amazing variety of shapes, sizes and colours, sprout seeds, record interesting details and create a class display.



7-8 year-olds are the 'Thinkers'

These activities offer a range of opportunities for children to think critically. The Thinkers are encouraged to reflect on their findings and pool their ideas. The children will explore how we use plants and investigate how they grow successfully.

Activity 2: Living well - 2 lessons

The Thinkers will discuss what's needed for successful plant growth and test these requirements by observation of real plants grown under certain conditions.

Activity 1: Thinking Walk - 2 lessons

The Thinkers will go on a walk and reflect on how we use plants. Children will carry out detailed observation, and could record the walk by taking photographs or recording audio.

Activity 3: The feel good factor

2 lessons - The Thinkers will collect examples of and research plant products. The collection could be used to create posters about plant uses and how they make us feel good.



8-9 year-olds are the 'Collectors'

Darwin was very interested in collecting and made collections, observations and recordings to document how plants and animals adapted to their surroundings. An Ideal opportunity to follow in Darwin's footsteps!

Activity 2: Fitting in – 2 lessons

The Collectors will compare the different conditions and plants found in two habitats and consider possible threats to habitats.



Activity 1: Thinking Walk
2 lessons- The Collectors go on a walk where they will compare plant habitats and collect, document and press specimens from the Identikit list in the same way as a real Plant Hunter.

Activity 3: Collecting specimens

2 lessons - The Collectors will follow the instructions to make a herbarium specimen - just like Darwin's. They will also study modern and contemporary specimens and see how making them contributes to conservation.

9-10 year-olds are the 'Investigators'

In these activities the Investigators will investigate seed dispersal and do a germination experiment. They will also be able to collect, prepare and store seeds in their own Mini Seed Banks.

Activity 2: Shaking, flying, sticking!

2 lessons - The Investigators will think about ways seeds can be spread about and replicate some of the seed dispersal techniques using models.



Activity 1: Daisy observation
The Investigators locate a patch of grass and cordon it off to protect daisy plants from interference. They will visit the same patch over a period of weeks, collect and process daisy seed and store in their own Mini Seed Banks!

Activity 3: Time for seeds

The Investigators will plan an experiment to see how long it takes for seed to germinate using sunflower seed and will enter and perhaps compare their germination data with other schools on the website.

10-11 year-olds are 'Plant Detectives'

They will see how Kew scientists have identified mystery seeds and then embark on their own detecting challenge. Their mission is to identify some mystery seeds. Solving this mystery will combine observing evidence with creative thinking.

Activity 2: Name that plant

The Plant Detectives will examine the mystery seeds and conduct germination experiments to identify them from a number of variables in a 'fair test'.



Activity 1: Thinking Walk

The Plant Detectives will hear real life stories about scientists identifying mystery seeds, and then think about identifying characteristics of plants on their walk.

Activity 3: Find that plant

The Plant Detectives will try and identify the mystery plant locally and collect examples, and design a test and materials for the following years to use.

The Hunt Goes

Each year group has a set of tailored activities all linked to the curriculum with familiar teaching processes and concepts, see inside this leaflet for activity summaries.

For the full activity guidelines, and everything you need to take part, including all the teaching resources and extras such as films and interactive games – visit www.greatplanthunt.org (AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH ONLY)

Join thousands of teachers and children having fun as they learn with The Great Plant Hunt:

“The teacher’s handbook and the individual booklets for the year groups are so detailed and well-thought-out, we have all found them incredibly useful and inspiring.” *Maureen Greyson, All Saints’ Church of England Primary School, Leek Wootton*

“I want to learn more about plants because before this project I just thought they were pretty but now I know about the different places they grow and the different ways in which people can use plants.” *Jade, P6, West Lothian*

“We would like to thank you for the chest full of brilliant resources and for a great website. I will never be stuck for planning again.” *Janette Hales, Church Vale Primary School, Mansfield*

“With such well-thought-out resources and planning, we decided to base our entire science week around the theme of Darwin and The Great Plant Hunt. It was a fantastic, fun-filled educational week inspired by your resources. Furthermore children who protested they didn’t like nature are now completely engrossed by the natural world, so much so that they have been collecting examples from home!” *Natasha Birnie, Albemarle Primary School, Wimbledon*

www.greatplanthunt.org

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POSSIBILITIES

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