

# Unit I: Classroom Plants

Content Area: **Science**  
Course(s): **Science 2**  
Time Period: **September**  
Length: **Sept 8 - Nov 11**  
Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understandings

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A seed is an organism, a living thing that has a variety of properties.

Plants need water, light, and nutrients to grow.

Plants are living things that are important to humans and animals.

## Essential Questions

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What is a plant?

Why are plants important to us?

What does soil have to do with plants?

Why do you think plants have roots?

How do the three basic components of soil react to water?

## Content

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Online Resources

*Preview websites ahead of time to determine whether they are appropriate for your students' needs. You may also wish to research other related websites. A good place to start is the National Science Teachers Association website:*

<http://www.nsta.org/recommendedsites>.

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**

<http://plants.usda.gov/index.html>

**National Gardening Association**

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/>

**Texas A&M Horticulture Department's Just for Kids**

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/kindergarden/index.html>

**4-H**

**USDA Cooperative Extension Service Program**

<http://www.4-h.org/>

**National Agricultural Library**

**Kids Science Page**

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/ttic/Kids/index.html>

**The National Park Service Nature Net**

<http://www.nature.nps.gov/>

**National Biological Information Infrastructure**

<http://www.nbi.gov/disciplines/botany/science.html>

**Book Suggestions**

*Flowers, Trees, and Fruits (Young Discoverers)*

Sally Morgan. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.

*From Seed to Plant (Rookie Read-About Science)*

Allan Fowler. Children's Book Press, 2001.

*A Fruit Is a Suitcase for Seeds*

Jean Richards. Millbrook Press, 2002.

*I Am a Leaf*

Jean Marzollo. Bt Bound, 2001.

*Plant Plumbing: A Book About Roots and Stems (Growing Things)*

Susan Blackaby. Picture Window Books, 2003.

*Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden*

George Levenson. Tricycle Press, 2002.

*The Tiny Seed*

Eric Carle. Bt Bound, 2001.

## **Skills**

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Distinguish between plants and animals.

Recognize the interdependency between plants and animals.

Identify the names and functions of plant parts.

Read about the stages in the life cycle of a plant.

Identify sand, clay and humus as three basic components of soil.

Infer what plants need to grow.

Conclude that plants reproduce in different ways.

Interpret photographs and diagrams.

Read captions and labels.

Recognize parts of a book.

Discuss the functions of a table of contents and a glossary.

## **Standards**

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SCI.2	Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
SCI.2-LS2-1	Plan and conduct an investigation to determine if plants need sunlight and water to grow.
SCI.2-LS2-2	Develop a simple model that mimics the function of an animal in dispersing seeds or pollinating plants.
SCI.2-LS4-1	Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.