

Dear Parents and carers,

I hope that you, your children and all your family members are safe and well during these difficult times. I'm sure that you are doing everything possible to keep your child stimulated and entertained but I've put together some ideas of things that you can do with your child at home that are linked to our core books.

During this half of the new term we would have been learning about growing. I have compiled some activities that we would have covered within this term that you can do with your children at home.

Plants, Fruit and Veg

Listen to the stories of 'The Tiny seed

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_A_e6h-DhU and 'Jaspers Beanstalk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_dAzjQREAg

Focus on new vocabulary, especially the parts of the flower including: the stem, leaves, roots and petals.

Allow them to watch these clips as many times as possible or, if you have the books, read them with your child. Talk about what seeds need to grow.

If you can, collect some wild flowers such as dandelions and ask your child to name the different parts as they dissect them and sort them into different pots.

Look for different seeds found in different fruits and vegetables and talk about the seeds we eat. This is a simple one to put together and do with your kids with things you will hopefully already have in your home. It's a wonderful nature science activity and also great for lessons on food and nutrition. You can take a closer look at seeds that grow both inside and outside of different foods. After checking all of these out, you can talk about the fruits and vegetables that have seeds we do not eat (fruits with pits, apples, oranges, peppers, etc). Ask why some are ok to eat while others are not!

You can also look at and talk about dried seeds and beans. Use them to create a collage



Also use them for sorting and counting. Draw out a grid with numbers and encourage your child to place the correct number of beans/ seeds in each



Mix different seeds and beans in a bowl and encourage your child to sort them using tweezers to develop fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination.



Plant your own seeds and encourage your child to take the responsibility of taking care of their plants and watering them daily.

Planting a bean in a bag is a fantastic way of watching a bean root. For this activity you will need to place cotton wool and a bean in a sandwich or freezer bag. Water it and hang in a sunny spot leaving the top open. Encourage your child to look at it daily and talk about the changes.



After your weekly shop, look at the different fruits and vegetables you have bought and talk about whether they grew above or below the ground or if they grew on a plant or a tree. Some of their answers can be surprising!