

Summer Block 3

Plants (bulbs and seeds)

Small steps



Step 1

Findings – bulbs and seeds

Key resources

Step 1 – Findings – bulbs and seeds

- rulers
- plants grown in Block 1
- A4 paper
- counting cubes



Findings – bulbs and seeds

Notes and guidance

In this small step, children look at their findings from planting bulbs and seeds in Summer Block 1. They should observe any changes and growth in the bulbs and seeds and reflect on the different growing conditions. Children should be encouraged to refer to their prediction from Block 1 and explain how their plants have changed over time. It may be useful to recap what bulbs and seeds need in order to grow into healthy plants. This will help them to provide an explanation for their findings. Children should be encouraged to provide conclusions which refer to light, temperature and water.

Within this step, there are opportunities for children to measure the growth of the plants and compare the results from different temperature conditions. It may be useful to add these measurements to the table on the worksheet.

Things to look out for

- Children may find it difficult to measure from the base of the plant and may need help with this.
- Children need to be aware that adverse weather conditions can have an impact on plant growth outdoors.

Key questions

- What do plants need to grow and stay healthy?
- How did the seeds change over time?
- How did the bulbs change over time?
- What was the same about the plants that grew from bulbs and seeds?
- What was different about the plants that grew from bulbs and seeds?
- How did you measure the height of the plants?

Enquiry questions

- How do the bulbs and seeds change over time?

National curriculum links

- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants.
- **Working scientifically** – Observing closely, using simple equipment.

Findings – bulbs and seeds

Key vocabulary

- **bulb** – a part of a plant which stores food and is found underground



- **seed** – a part of a plant that can grow into a new plant



- **plant** – a living thing that usually grows in soil



- **temperature** – a measure of how hot or cold something is



- **growth** – when a living thing gets bigger



Practical ideas

- Children should measure the height of their plants grown in different temperature conditions.

Children should identify the effect that this had on the growth of the plants.

Children could compare the heights of the plants using language such as “longer than”, “shorter than” and “taller than”.

This could also be shown visually using counting cubes.



Factual knowledge

- Plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- Some plants grow from bulbs.
- Some plants grow from seeds.