



Teachers' notes

supporting classroom resources and activities

Plant Pest Investigation

Pre-reading activity 2:

Plant parts

Key biosecurity concepts

Students begin to recognise features of plants, make and record observations about plants and use appropriate language to describe the parts of a plant.

Resources

- seedlings (1 per pair or 1 per group)

Preparation

- remove the seedlings from the punnets or trays and shake off the dirt so that the roots are exposed.

Lesson steps

1. Write 'plants' on the board and brainstorm what the students know about plants. Remind students to think about the plants they saw on the 'plant hunt' (activity 1).
2. Divide the class into pairs or groups of three and give each pair/group a seedling. Ask students to look at their plant and talk about what they notice. Guide students to observe:
 - colour
 - texture
 - shape
 - size
 - smell

Have the students complete the 'my seedling' worksheet in either words or pictures.

3. In a circle, discuss their observations about the seedlings. Bring a seedling to the floor and ask students what they know about the different parts of plants. Point out:
 - flower
 - roots
 - bud
 - stem
 - leaves

4. Hand out the 'parts of a plant' worksheet and ask students to cut out the labels and paste them next to the appropriate part of the plant.

Extension activities:

1. Make a collage of plants.
2. Have students do a 'plant hunt' at home and draw a diagram of their favourite one. Can they label it?

