



Teachers' notes

supporting classroom resources and activities

Plant Pest Investigation

Post-reading activity 4:

Designer pest

Objectives

Students should begin to:

- understand that there are many different types of pests
- understand what features make an insect a 'pest'
- create their own pest, and
- explain how and why they made their pest.

Resources

- craft materials
- pesky plant pests PowerPoint

Lesson steps

1. Review what plants pests are (from activity 8).
2. Review 'Pesky Plant Pests' PowerPoint or the 'Giant African Snail' PowerPoint.
3. Ask students what features make an insect a 'pest'. Think about:
 - what the pests eat
 - how the pests eat it, and
 - how much damage they cause.
4. Explain to students that they are going to make a pest out of craft materials. They can build a real pest or an imaginary pest.
5. Distribute craft materials and assist students to build their plant pests.
6. After the students have made their pests, sit everyone in a circle. Going around the circle, students are to 'introduce' their pest to the rest of the class. Students should explain what their pest is, what it eats and why it is a pest. If they have named their pest, they should also share the name.

Further activities:

1. Make up a play about your pest invading a crop.
2. Take your pest home and show your family!

