

Plants and how they grow

→ Teacher Guidance

Activity 10: Design a seed packet

This activity involves designing a seed packet for seeds that have come from a newly discovered plant. It stimulates discussion on what the seeds need to grow and how to care for the young growing plant. It gives the children an opportunity to write instructional texts and requires some creative thinking in the design of the packet. This provides useful opportunities for developing literacy and presentation skills as well as being a good end-of-topic activity.

You will need some A4 envelopes to be the basis of their seed packets.

The activity

Tell the children that they are going on an expedition to look for new plants. They will only be able to bring back seeds and not the whole plant. Ask the children to design a seed packet with instructions to help other people grow the seeds.

Here are some suggestions you can ask the children to include in this activity.

- Make a drawing of the plant they discover, as seen growing in the wild, and give its name.
- List the equipment that they will need for growing the seeds.
- Write instructions for sowing the seeds, including what sort of soil or compost should be used and where they should be grown.
- Say how much soil or compost would be used and how deep the seeds should be planted.
- Suggest a suitable temperature for the seeds to germinate, then for the young plants to grow.
- Give instructions about watering the seeds and growing the plants.
- Discuss important features for the design of the seed packet, to make other people want to buy the seeds and then grow them.

To make the seed packet, the children can attach the drawing of the flower to the front of a large A4 envelope. They can write their instructions for planting and care, then attach this to the back of the envelope, so that it becomes the seed packet.

Curriculum links

National Curriculum (Sc2)

KS2: 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d

QCA guidelines – Scheme of work

Unit 3B

Scottish ISE 5-14 framework/attainment targets

LT-C2.4

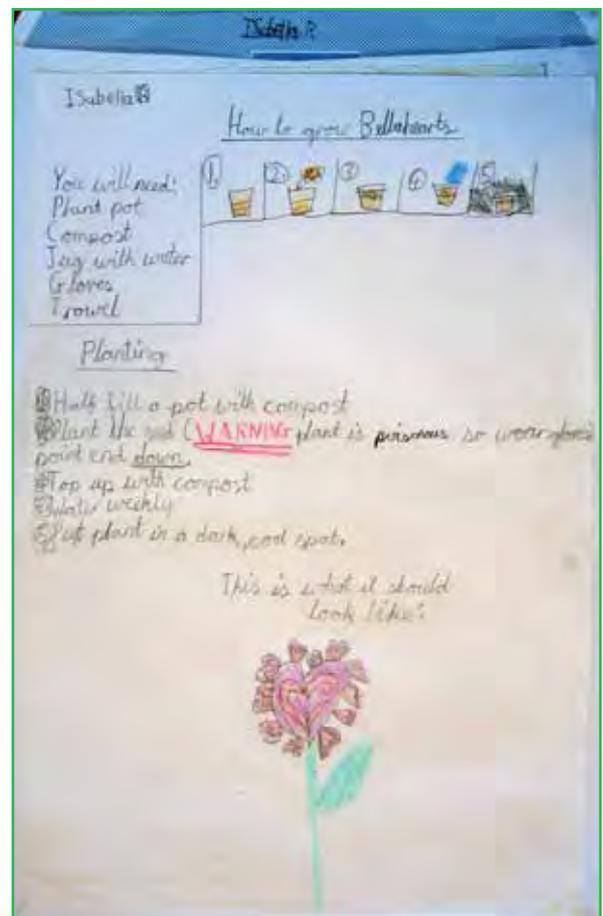
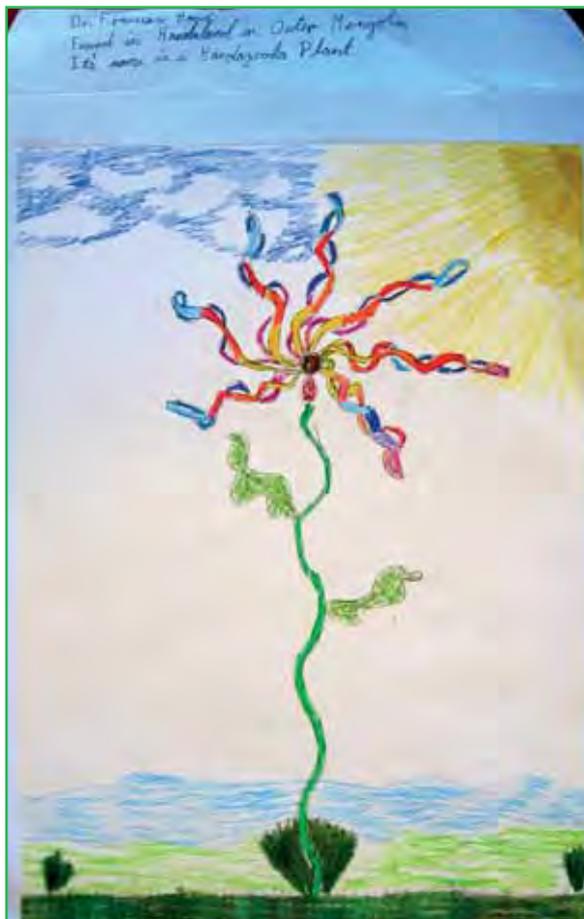


Figure 19. Two seed packets created by children (in Year 4 at the The Cavendish School in 2005).