

GROW YOUR OWN POTATOES



Overview 4: Covering the Curriculum

Growing potatoes is a fabulous way for students to achieve in science and PSHE, but it can also be good in other curriculum areas, here are a few suggestions to get you started:

Literacy

Learning new vocabulary: linking symbols/signs to objects, matching pictures to objects, matching text to objects.

Making and expressing choices: saying Yes or No in response to choices about potatoes.

Retelling a sequence: Can your student deliver the sensory study, or demonstrate the movement sequence unprompted? This is retelling a story.

Understanding the difference between fiction and non fiction text: Why not write a story about a potato character to draw this contrast?

Labelling see our Potato Plant Worksheet.

Numeracy

Time:

Understanding now and next

Within the context of the lesson: What are you doing now? What will you be doing next?

Within the context of the growth of a potato: What stage is our potato at now? What will be next?

Understanding the passage of time

Look at our recording growth worksheet.

You could allow a potato to rot somewhere out of reach of students but where it can be seen and record decay. [Such a potato could later be used as a contrast when talking about what our bodies need to be healthy as described in Overview 2 An Array of Activities

Understanding seasons

Look at our Potato year activity online game.



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Counting:

There are just so many opportunities to count! How many potatoes have you grown? If you cook some how many will you have left? Which plant has the most leaves on?

Weighing and measuring:

Again, just so many ways to do this! How much do your potatoes weigh? Which is the heaviest potato? Which potato makes the longest wedges? Which potatoes are smaller than ___?

Sorting, Matching, ordering:

Ask students to sort a potato plant into its parts, e.g. leaves on one plate, stem on another, roots a third and so on. The Potato plant worksheet can support this work. Ask students to sort different types of potatoes, one from another. You can use our chart showing different varieties of potatoes. Ask them to match a variety of potato to the picture on the chart. Ask students to order potatoes big to small.

PE

Develop the movement sequence into a dance.

Use the concept of growing to inspire a dance, think of lots of ways to show your body appearing to grow, can you grow as a group? What about holding hands and standing close together and then spreading out to 'grow' your circle? Grow in different ways and different directions.

You'll find even more suggestions at UK curricular links.

