

# GROW YOUR OWN POTATOES



## Overview 5: Plenty of Plenaries

As well as celebrating achievement and evaluating individual learning objectives plenaries provide you with the opportunity to extend your students learning: to stretch what has been learned in the classroom out to other areas of the curriculum, and the wider world, and to really challenge your students.

These example plenary activities are designed to spark interest and highlight connections between the potato work and other areas; they should be quick and interesting, choose ones you think will capture your students' attention.

### Add a verse to a potato song

Gather students' learning from the lesson and use it to create a new verse for your Potato song.

### Act out a potato's journey.

You may find it helpful to print out pictures of: a potato, a farmer, a supermarket manager, a shopper and a person eating potatoes to help with this activity.

This activity has lots of opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding and make choices, you may want to select just a few of the options presented in order to keep the activity quick.

You can choose more than one student to play each role if you want to involve the whole class in the role play.

Choose a student to play the part of the potato. Begin with them curled up small on the floor. You could cover them with a blanket to illustrate soil.

Choose a student to be a farmer and one to be a supermarket manager. Get the class to decide who is needed next in your role play.

Get the class to tell the farmer what he needs to do to make the potato grow. If he gets it right the student playing the potato can stretch their arms up to represent leaves.

Once the farmer has harvested the potato you can support the student playing the role of the supermarket manager to come and buy the potato and take them back to the shop.

The shopper can choose how to cook the potato, they could mime looking at a recipe book or choose a recipe from those on the GYOP site \*link\*.

Finally the eater can show everyone whether they enjoy eating the potato!

### Vote with your feet

Put up images of baked, mashed and boiled potatoes in different areas of the room. Ask students to vote with their feet to find out how everyone eats their potatoes at home.



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## Perfect Potato Path

Scatter carpet tiles around the classroom. Label them with stages of a potatoes journey. [If you are worried about carpet tiles being slippery, or can't get a hold of any, you can label the backs of chairs as if they were sign posts on a path.] Equip students with instruments that play happy or sad sounds – hand held chime bars in major and minor tones are great for this. If you haven't got suitable instruments students can cheer or boo instead. Challenge a student to step a perfect potato path. Their friends can guide them by making happy sounds when they get a choice right and sad ones when they err. Include choices such as soil or ice cream for food, and fry or boil for cooking options. If a student steps on a not perfect tile on the path then it becomes someone else's turn to play.

## You may find these other resources useful too:

From Field to Fork PPT or, from [CYOP.potato.org.uk](http://CYOP.potato.org.uk), Field to Fork film from CYOP– show students the journey the potatoes they eat for their school dinners take to get on their plates.

Healthy Eating PPT & Healthy Plate worksheet – students could take the worksheet with them and fill in their next meal to see if fits the healthy model.

Food diary worksheet – Print off a copy of the food diary and enlarge it so that it will be easy for everyone to see. Ask students to guess what you ate yesterday, give them clues such as “It was healthy” “It was made out of potatoes.” Give everyone a worksheet as homework.

Where in the UK – Show students where your school is on the map, ask them if they are near to somewhere known for Potato growing. If you have made contact with a local farm show this on the map also.

## Use opportunities for involvement to motivate students and celebrate their achievements:

Enter our Grow Your Own Potatoes competition.

Send in your photographs to us.

Share your story with us.

