

Guide 2: Marking stem for science

This stem gives examples of what achievement might look like for your students. It is intended as a guide only, for formal assessments please refer to the **P** levels directly or to the assessment criteria used by your school.

P8

I have observed the changes that happened in our potato plant as it grew.

I have contributed to recording what has happened to our potato plant.

P7

I understand the word 'grow' and can talk about what it means for the potato plants.

I can record what we have done, or what has happened.

e.g. by taking photos of the plant as it grows, by ordering images that show what we have done.

P6

I can sort the parts of a potato plant.

e.g. putting roots with roots, potatoes with potatoes, leaves with leaves and stems with stems.

I am interested in the potato plant growing and observe the changes that occur as it does so.

Time lapse photography is a superb way of enabling students to achieve this, alternatively using drawings or photographs to record the growth of your potatoes regularly will support students in being able to observe the changes.

P5

I dug in the soil to find the potatoes.

I was able to point to the leaves on the potato plant when asked.

P4

I show an interest in the growth of our potatoes, for example by leaning over to look into the pot they're growing in.

I have explored wet and dry soil.

P3

I was interested in the different textures offered to me by mashed potatoes and raw potatoes.

Students may demonstrate such interest by pressing objects into the mash, or squishing it.

For the raw potatoes it might be by inspecting them all around or throwing them.

I might respond to choices to do with potatoes, for example if you offer me a potato leaf or a potato root I might reach towards the leaf.

P2

I reacted to the experience of planting the potato.

Reactions you might see from your students include; dropping a potato they are given to hold, squeezing soil between their fingertips, putting objects into mouth, leaning to look at something, reaching.

I let someone help me to spoon soil over the potatoes.

P1

I held a potato with help.

I appeared to briefly focus on the planting of the potato.