

Activity 2:

Spot the plant

Activity 2 should be spread over two lessons.

1) A second Thinking Walk

- Take the children on a second walk, this time to discover some specific plants.
- In this activity the children will be using their observation skills to help them match or compare living plants with an image.

On the walk:

- **Discover:** Look for plants in the chosen environment.
- **Observe:** Challenge the children to find a selection of the listed plants by matching them to The Great Plant Hunt Identikit provided. This could be just one or two plants depending on timing and the ability of the children.
- **Record:** The children should record any details about where they found the plants by drawing in their Darwin Doodle Books or taking photographs.
- **Collect:** Choose one plant and collect several of them to look at how different they are. For example, some daisies have pink tips on the petal-like structures while others are all white.

2) Back in class

- Look at the collection the children have made and see how many things you can see that are the same and how many that are different in one species.
- The collected plants could be made into a display.

Helpful hints

- Take a small trowel or an old spoon on the walk to dig up one or two plants to see the roots. These should be weeds and the children should understand that they should not normally dig up plants.
- If you are collecting on someone else's land, please get permission.

Resources

What else is in the handbook?

- ☀ Health and safety information
- ☀ How to press plants and make a herbarium specimen

What's in the Treasure Chest?

- ☀ The Great Plant Hunt Identikit
- ☀ Plant press to press collected plants (optional)
- ☀ Magnifiers

Things you need to collect

- ☀ Make sure the children have project notebooks
- ☀ Paper bags and a trowel as per Activity 1
- ☀ Material to create the class picture