

# Growing Wildflowers

From Seed to Seed





# During this lesson, you will:

- Compare different types of seeds.
- Discuss what plants need to grow.
- Explain why wildflowers are really important.
- Sow your own wildflowers and watch them grow!



# Zoom in, Zoom out



**Explorify**

<https://explorify.uk/en/activities/zoom-in-zoom-out/brown-shapes/classroom>

<https://explorify.uk/en/activities/zoom-in-zoom-out/red-and-bumpy/classroom>





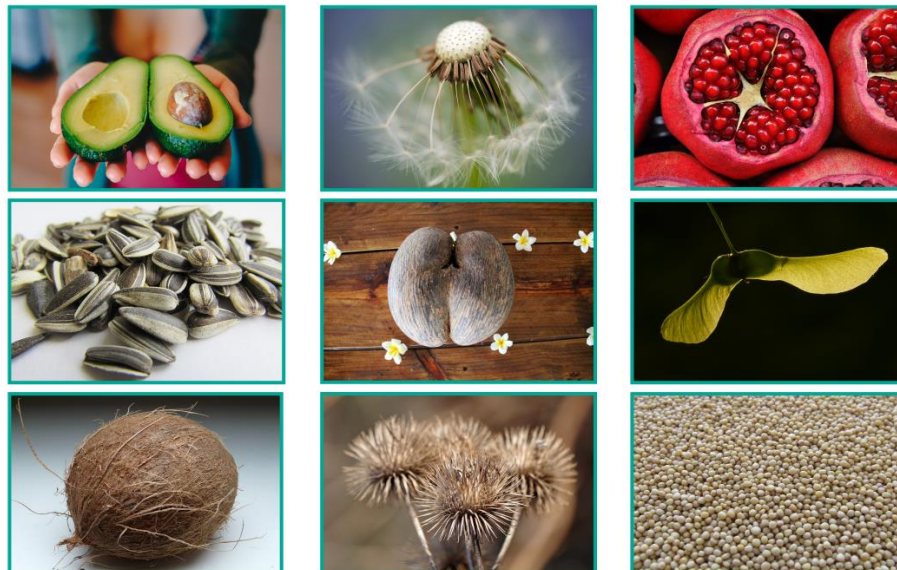
# Activity 1: Do all seeds look the same?

Study a selection of different seeds.  
Can you spot any similarities or differences?

Are they the same size?  
Are they the same shape?  
What about their colour?  
Do they feel the same?

**Activity 1. Do all seeds look the same?**

Use the pictures of the seeds below to answer the question: Do all seeds look the same?  
Compare their similarities and differences in terms of their size, shape, colour and texture.



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# Extension Activity

Go on a seed hunt around your school. Look out for different plants and trees and see how many of them are growing seeds.

You could take photographs of all the different seeds you find or, with the help of an adult, collect some seeds.



# Main Activity

Today, you will be working in groups to plant wildflowers somewhere around your school ground.



# Why Wildflowers?

There are lots of good reasons to plant wildflowers:

- Connecting people with nature.
- Changing unused spaces into bright, colourful places.
- Increasing the variety of different plants and animals in one place.
- **Help pollinators (such as bees) that are currently under threat.**



Did you know?

The number of pollinators we have in the world has dropped a huge amount over the past ten years! This will effect the food we are able to grow and eat!





# But don't worry! You can help!

We can create special safe spaces for these insects by planting wildflowers

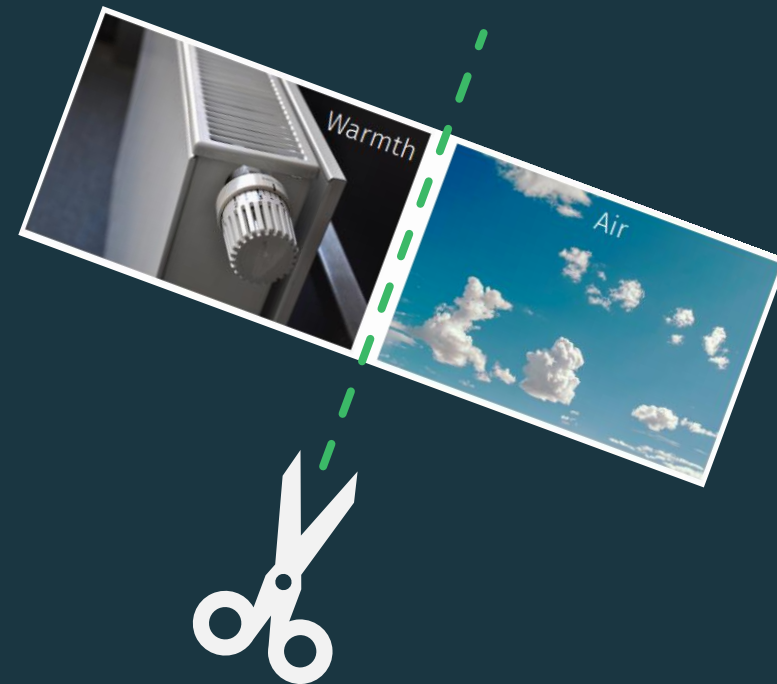
However, before we can sow our wildflowers, you need to think carefully about what plants need to grow. This will help you to choose a good spot to sow your seeds.



# Activity 2: What do plants need?

Cut out the cards and sort them into two piles:

- things plants need
- things plants don't need



Extension: ['Bloom or Doom- The Seedling Game'](#)



# Where is your group going to sow your wildflowers?

Use your school grounds and **pick a place for your group to sow your wildflower seeds.**

Remember to find a place that will give your seeds all of the things that they need to grow (you may need to give them a helping hand with the watering)



# Preparing your chosen spot for planting

## How to plant your seeds

- Sow them in a sunny spot (that doesn't already have wildflowers growing).
- Prepare the ground by digging and raking until the soil is fine and crumbly.
- Sow the seeds on the surface.
- Gently rake over the seeds, then press them down with the back of the rake.
- Water them in dry weather.

## When to plant wildflowers

The best time to sow is in Autumn (late September/October) when wildflower seeds would naturally drop. This way they will be in tune with their natural cycle and nature will water them for you!



<https://www.edenproject.com/learn/schools/how-to-grow-wildflowers-in-your-school>





# Tracking Plant Growth

Make sure you visit your wildflowers lots of times throughout the season (and throughout the year).

Each time you visit, record their growth by drawing pictures and measuring the height of the tallest flowers. It would also be a good idea to take a photograph of you with your flowers (this will help you notice seasonal changes).

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**Wildflower Tracking Sheet**

Types of wildflowers planted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Planted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date					
Drawing					
Height of tallest flower (cm)					
Photograph					



# What next?

Having observed your wildflowers complete their life-cycle, why not harvest the seeds and share with your community?

## How?

When the seed heads have dried and turned brown, you can either snip them off with a pair of scissors or shake the seeds from the heads into an envelope. Store the envelope in a cool, dry place (such as in an air tight container in your fridge).

You could even design seed packets to use when sharing your seeds:

