

Investigate! – How Plants Transport Water

Learning Outcomes

Science 2

3c that the root anchors the plant and that water and minerals are taken in through the root and transported through the stem to other parts of the plant

Materials needed

White flowers; carnations work best

Clear vases or containers

Food dye

Plastic gloves

Water



Aim

To investigate how water is carried through a plant.

To find physical evidence that water travels around the whole plant.

Questions

What evidence do we have that plants take water through the roots into the stem?

Is there any way we could 'see' this process happening?

What if we put dye into some water and then put the plant into this water?

Investigation

Start by asking the children to make a prediction. What will they see?

The children then follow these steps to carry out the investigation.

1. Pour water into the vase or container.
2. Put on the plastic gloves to protect hands.
3. Put food dye into the water and mix it in.
4. Place the flowering plant into the coloured water.
5. Watch what happens to the flower on the plant and record the findings.

Conclusion

Refer back to the aim of the investigation; did we find physical evidence that water travels around the whole plant? Can we answer the question 'how is water carried through a plant?'