



Seeds of STEM: Integrated STEM At-Home

Week 6: Plants and their Parts

Each activity can take anywhere from 10-30 minutes.

Day 1: Dandelion Close Observation

- Watch the read aloud of [Dandelions by Mia Posada](#).
- Go on a 'Dandelion hunt' near your home. Found one? Look closely. What do you see?
- Help your child name each part: stem, leaf, flower, etc. If you can, help your child dig up the dandelion to examine its roots. Bring the dandelion home for use on Day 2.



Day 2: Dandelion Drawings

- Listen to the [Dandelion song by Kesang Marstrand](#).
- Help your child carefully cut the dandelion into parts – separate the leaves from the stem, the flower, etc. (if no parts are available, find an image of a Dandelion to examine).
- Have your child trace each part of the dandelion onto paper, color them, and label them.
- Play the Plant Parts Game: Call out different plant parts and have your child use their bodies to represent it. For example, they may stretch their fingers wide to represent leaves.



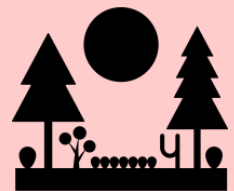
Day 3: Sorting Parts of Plants

- Tell your child that vegetables and fruits are plants! With your child, gather a variety of vegetables: broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, potatoes, onions, celery, lettuce.
- Have your child sort the vegetables by which part of the plant they are. For example, carrots and potatoes are roots, lettuce is a leaf, broccoli is a flower, celery is a stem. Explain that some plant parts are above ground and some are underground.
- Compare the vegetables to the dandelion parts from Day 2. How are they the same? How are they different?



Day 4: Nature Walk and Collection

- Go for a nature walk with your child. Take pictures of different plants you see.
- Help your child safely collect different plant parts that can be found.
- When you get home, use the photos and the plant parts to plan a plant model for teaching others about plant parts.
- Using the plan, gather other everyday materials – recyclables, craft materials, etc. – that can be used to represent the parts of a plant. Keep these materials for use on Day 5.



Day 5: Create a Model of a Plant

- Challenge: create a model of a plant using the materials you gathered. Make sure your model plant has all of its important parts: roots, stem, leaves, flower.
- Watch this video for some examples: [Read Good Books!: Plant Parts](#)
- As your child creates, ask questions: what are you using for the flower/roots/stem/etc.? Why are you using that?
- Once the model plant is complete, have your child show it to someone else and explain each part of their plant.



This child used pipe cleaners to make a model plant.