

How seeds grow into plants

To describe the needs of a plant – water, light, warmth.

Suggestions: look at cereal crops (wheat, oats and barley) and vegetables (cauliflowers, courgettes)

Starting points: Examine grains/seeds using a hand lens. Describe in detail. Ask the children what the seeds need to make them grow? Draw a picture to explain and if they mention light, ask them to plan how they might test this prediction.

Find out how a farmer grows wheat and barley and cares for the crop:

Links to relevant information on www.cornwallfoodandfarming.net:

[Ploughing](#)

[Planting](#)

[Types of crops](#)

[Harvesting cereal crops](#)

Find out how vegetables like cauliflower and courgettes grow.

Find out why Cornwall is good for vegetable growing. Links to information on vegetable growing on farms in Cornwall on www.cornwallfoodandfarming.net :

Growing vegetables in Cornwall, [here](#) and [here](#).

[Harvesting winter vegetables](#)

Display idea:

Make a background of a field with 3D ears of corn growing, based on observation of real grains.

Add the sun, clouds and rain.

Make a scarecrow using different materials and add real wheat or crops if possible.

Make crows with flapping wings and attach to display.

Add questions to display asking what grains need to grow.

Further ideas:

1. **Objective:** To understand the needs of plants.

Put seeds in different trays of soil and add different amounts of water every other day. Keep a diary of growth rate. Also do same with different amounts of light and monitor growth rate. Do some grow quicker, taller or have more leaves?

2 **Objective:** To understand simple food chains.

Make some flour. Weigh out an amount of wheat grains. Grind the grain using pestle and mortar. How much flour has been made? How does it differ from shop-bought flour? What would you need to make bread?