

PLANT SURPRISES!

Lesson By: Jenni Curry

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Focus: This lesson will show students the difference between the day and night time and this relation to living organisms.

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to determine the difference between plants and flowers in the day and night.
2. Students will be able to observe the sunlight and it's affects on plants.
3. Students will be observing living objects be able to describe them.
4. Students will be able to compare and describe living plants.

Standards:

EL.K.7.1 2006

Understand and follow one and two step-spoken directions.

SCI.K.2.1 2010

Observe and record during sunny days when the sun shines on different parts of the school building

SCI.K.2.2 2010

Describe and compare objects seen in the night and day sky.

SCI.K.3.1 2010

Observe and draw physical features of common plants and animals.

SCI.K.3.2 2010

Describe and compare living animals in terms of shape, texture of body covering, size, weight, color and the way they move

SC.K.3.3 2010

Describe and compare living plants in terms of growth, parts, shape, size, color, and texture

Background:

One way to group plants together is by when they are “awake” or open. Many flowering plants are open during the day and closed at night. A plant that displays this is called a diurnal flowering plant. “Di” means day. The opposite of this is nocturnal, which means those plants that are “awake” or open at night. “Noct” means night. Do you think humans are nocturnal or diurnal?

Another cause of plants being “awake” or open during the day is the bright sunshine. The sun helps plants grow by a process called photosynthesis. Can you all say photosynthesis? Plants grow and flower having plenty of light and water. The light that the sun provides the plant (photosynthesis), give plants the food they need to grow strong and healthy.

Materials:

1. Shadow box
2. Diurnal flowering plants
3. Flowerpots
4. Construction paper
5. Crayons
6. Colored pencils
7. Multi-colored pipe cleaners

Procedure: (30 minutes)

1. There will be two shadow boxes set up with the same diurnal flowering plant. If shadow boxes are unavailable, plastic or fake plants can be used that mimic flowering plants in day and night.
2. One box will be closed to demonstrate how the flowering plant looks at nighttime. The other shadow box will be open to allow sunlight to the flowering plant.
3. Students will observe the two shadow boxes.
4. Students will use construction paper to draw the two plants as they see them.
5. Teacher will discuss the differences between the two flowering plants, which includes the day and nighttime difference as well as the sunlight's affect on plants.
6. Collect students' drawings.
7. Students will then use pipe cleaners to make their favorite version of the flowering plant (additional activity that can be done in classroom).

Evaluation:

1. Back in the classroom, show students drawings to class and see if they can identify which flowering plant they are seeing, day or night.
2. Have students identify the differences between drawings, such as closed flowers, blooming flowers and plant growth due to sun.