





HOUSX

Topic: Plants	Year 1 Age 5-6	Title: Leaf looking
Working Scientifically Observing closely	identify and describe the common flowering plant	ne basic structure of a variety of nts, including trees

Assessment Focus

- Can children observe closely and make an accurate representation of a leaf that they have found?
- Can children describe features on their leaf?

Activity Today we will be botanists.

Go on a 'welly walk' in school grounds to collect leaves (with clear instructions about where they are allowed to go and what they are allowed to collect/pick e.g. try to collect fallen leaves, do not over-pick from one plant, warn to look for prickles and stinging nettles etc – check with an adult if unsure).

Use magnifiers to look closely at the leaves and ask pairs to discuss what is the same/what is different. Draw a leaf, labelling with support.

At an appropriate point, you could include a mini-plenary in which you show a drawing by the class teddy/puppet. Ask the children to give advice on how to improve the drawing e.g. what colour is the leaf stalk? Where do the veins really go? Children could then improve their own or do another drawing. Wash hands.

Adapting the activity

Support: Adult prompts to look carefully at veins, hairs, colour etc.

Extension: Label parts of the leaf, e.g. veins, hairs. Compare two leaves.

Other ideas: Provide some unusual leaves (or pictures), e.g. composite leaf, cactus, grass. Collect a nature paint pallet: stick small bits onto a card strip (with double sided tape on.)

Key Questions

- What does a leaf look like?
- How are these leaves different/similar?
- What shape/colour is your leaf?
- Where did you find your leaf? How do you think it got there?
- Does you leaf have hairs/veins? Why do you think they are there?
- Does your leaf look the same on both sides?

Assessment Indicators

Not yet met: Children draw a leaf but shape may not be accurate or features are missing

Meeting: Children can draw a leaf outline accurately and show hairs/veins when present.

Possible ways of going further: Children compare the features of different leaves.

