

GROWING IN THE COMMUNITY

SESSION B



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Children will use basic gardening tools to plant the donations received from parents and the local community. Children will write labels and stick them onto stakes to describe the plants. Children will record their work by taking photographs that will later be used to celebrate their community garden with the school.

Suggested Resources:

Donated plants; basic gardening tools (enough for small groups of approximately 10 children); watering can; sticky labels and gardening stakes; pencils; and cameras (3-5).

This lesson will take place outdoors in the garden (either at the school or in a public space).

Script:

Gather children around the gardening plot that they will be developing in the lesson. Recap the importance of maintaining beautiful spaces for the local community. How are they used? Why should we practise service in keeping them beautiful? Explain that small groups of children will take it in turns to complete three activities that will help them to create a beautiful garden for the local community. Remind children about how they can work best in groups – what do they need to remember? Explain to children that they may see groups of Year 1 and Year 2 children doing similar activities. They can watch and learn from them how they are being of service in improving the garden.

Suggested Activities

1: Planting

In pairs, children should be given a small plant and a trowel. Ensure children know where they need to

plant their flower and model digging a hole for the plant, bedding it in and watering it. Now it is their turn. Remember to praise children for their act of service no matter how small.

2: Labelling

Give each child a large (unpeeled) sticky label. Carefully looking at their plant they should find the name of it or describe it in a few words, carefully writing it on the label. For example: 'Tulip – yellow flower'. They should then carefully unpeel the sticky label and stick it onto a plastic gardening stake (with adult supervision). Once they have planted their flower, they can push their stake into the soil next to it.

3: Recording Their Community Work

In pairs or small groups, children can record the work of their peers by taking photographs of their planting. Encourage children to take a range of photographs so that they can share all aspects of their work with others in the school.

Plenary:

Gather the class around the newly planted flowerbed for a group photograph, which can be added to a scrapbook of their own photographs. What difference will their beautiful garden make to the lives of people in the local community? Generate a discussion of ideas about how the school can keep the garden looking fresh and beautiful.

Character Coaching

Meaningful Praise:

I like the way you have planted the flowers so that people in the local community can enjoy looking at them. I am sure that they will appreciate your service.

Correction:

Let us think about how you would like to enjoy this garden and what would help you do that. Can you show me how to plant a flower carefully?