

Amazing Plants



Topic: Our marvellous world

Curriculum link: Living Things; Society and Environment

Text type: Description

Reading level: 10

Word count: 178

High-frequency words: about, are, can, do, for, has, in, inside, is, like, look, lots, others, some, the, there, this, when

Vocabulary: amazing, plants, biggest, world, metre, wide, smells, rotting, meat, insects, leaves, shaped, cup, liquid, drowns, food, snap, lands, trapped, branches, roots, growing, air, grows, dry, places, store, water, trunk, years, cactus, trees, birds, holes, stem, nest, spines, animals

Possible literacy focus:

Understanding descriptive language and describing characteristics.

Reading labels.

Inferring meaning.

Follow-up activities

Discussion and reflection

Ask the children:

*Which plant did you think was the most amazing? Why?
What new information did you learn through reading this book?*

How was the information organised?

What extra information would you like to know?

What did the author need to know to write this book?

Where could you find out more about plants?

Model plants

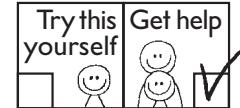
Provide children with a range of books, CD-ROMs or websites about plants. Ask them to browse through these. Have the children use playdough to make a model of some or all of the amazing plants they find. Encourage them to show as much detail as possible in their model. Ask them to write labels for their finished models and give a verbal presentation explaining why the plant is amazing.

Botanical drawings

Go for a walk in the school grounds so that children can look at a range of plants and choose one that they feel has something amazing about it. Have them take digital pictures of the amazing parts of the plants they select. Alternatively, they could draw an outline of the plant in pencil and then shade it in with watercolours. Encourage the children to include detail in their picture. Have the children write captions for each picture and then label the amazing parts of the plant. These can be displayed in an "Amazing Plants" exhibition.

Amazing news

You will need:
tape recorder or computer



1. Imagine you are a news reporter.
You have been given the job of reporting on an amazing plant.
2. Practise reporting about your amazing plant.
3. Record your report.
4. Play your report to the class.

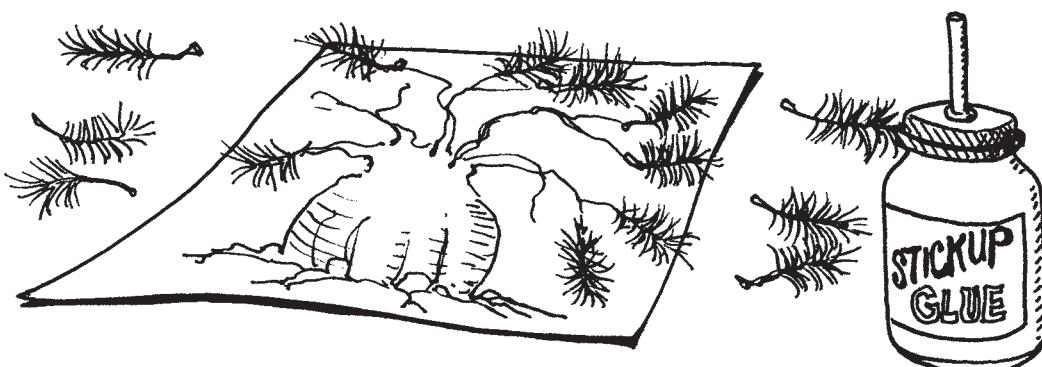


Describing plants

You will need:
paper, coloured tissue paper, glue



1. Choose a plant that you think is amazing.
2. Make a collage of this plant with the tissue paper.
3. Write a description of the plant underneath.



Name _____

Amazing features

Write and draw.

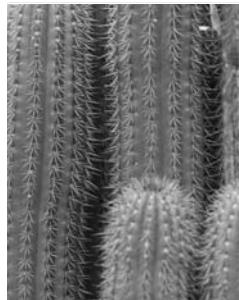
| Plant | Why is this plant amazing? | How does this help the plant to survive? |
|---|----------------------------|--|
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|  | | |
|  | | |

Instructions Ask the children to complete the table by writing and drawing. Provide access to the book *Amazing Plants* for reference as needed. Encourage the children to write in their own words, not simply copy from the book.

Name _____

Make an index

saguaro cactus



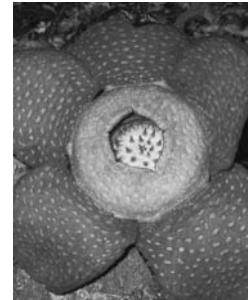
boab tree



Venus flytrap



rafflesia



pitcher plant



Index

page _____

page _____

page _____

page _____

page _____

Instructions Ask the children to write the words in alphabetical order to make an index, and to add the page numbers.