

Planting and Growing



May to
July 2022



Planting and Growing Project

This project began when all the children planted a sunflower seed to take home for Mother's Day. Lots of the children were interested in what would happen to the seeds when they took them home. To extend this learning we decided to plant various flower and vegetable seeds so that we could observe their growth over time.

The children have been keen to take part in all aspects of the planting process and have been eager to visit the allotment to help water the plants in the raised beds. New vocabulary has been introduced and books have been added to extend their knowledge.



Links to EYFS

Communication and Language

Listening, Attention & Understanding

Birth to 3

Listen and respond to a simple instruction

Understand simple instructions like “give to mummy” or “stop”.

Listen to other people’s talk with interest, but can easily be distracted by other things

Identify familiar objects and properties for practitioners when they are described: for example: ‘Katie’s coat’, ‘blue car’, ‘shiny apple’.

Understand and act on longer sentences like ‘make teddy jump’ or ‘find your coat’.

Understand simple questions about ‘who’, ‘what’ and ‘where’ (but generally not ‘why’).

3-4 years

Understand a question or instruction that has two parts, such as “Get your coat and wait at the door”.

Understand ‘why’ questions, like: “Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?”

Speaking

Birth to 3

Copy your gestures and words.

Start to develop conversation, often jumping from topic to topic.

3-4 years

Use a wider range of vocabulary.

Use longer sentences of four to six words.

Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.

Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

Birth to 3

Develop manipulation and control.

Explore different materials and tools.

3-4 years

Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.

Understanding the World

Past & Present

Birth to 3

Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.

The Natural World

3-4 years

Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials

Plant seeds and care for growing plants.

Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.

Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

Reception

Explore the natural world around them.

Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside



We planted different vegetable and flower seeds. We watered them and put them in the greenhouse to germinate.

E planted lots of Nasturtium seeds in her plant pot. First she filled the plant pot with compost, then she added the seeds and finally she covered the seeds with more compost.





Once we had finished planting the seeds we took them to the green house in our allotment.





While we were waiting for the seeds to grow we had to prepare the raised beds for planting. Firstly, we had to use the trowels and forks to turn over the soil to take out all the weeds. It was hard work digging.





Once we had finished digging and weeding the first bed, we then had to work on the second bed ready to plant all the seedlings.



We collected all the weeds in a big container and then added it to our compost heap.



We went nearly every day to water the seeds and eventually we noticed tiny shoots starting to appear. The peas were the first seeds to grow.





We filled our watering cans from the water butts.







While we were waiting for the seeds to grow we made some wild flower seed bombs to plant at the allotment.



We followed the recipe card that told us how to make the seed bombs.



The first job was to
add the scoops of
compost.





After the compost
we added the
flour and then
the seeds.





Finally we added the water and mixed.





Once everything had been combined we took out small amounts of the mixture and rolled it into small balls which we left to dry before scattering them at the allotment.





Before we could plant the peas we had to put up the netting. We put the canes in the ground and added the netting over the top.







We gave the peas a drink of water to help them grow.



Then we prepared the ground for the sweet peas.
We built a frame for the peas to grow up, using
canes and twine..





The soil was pressed around the sweet peas to make it firm.



When we had finish planting all the seeds we all helped to water all the seedlings including the sunflowers, nasturtiums and the pumpkins.



The children all to help take care of the plants, fruit and vegetables.



The children have also helped to plant some bedding plants in odd pairs of wellies, which we have hung on the fences around nursery.





The children worked together by holding and filling the wellies with the gravel and compost and then they added the plants.



We smelt the lavender plant.







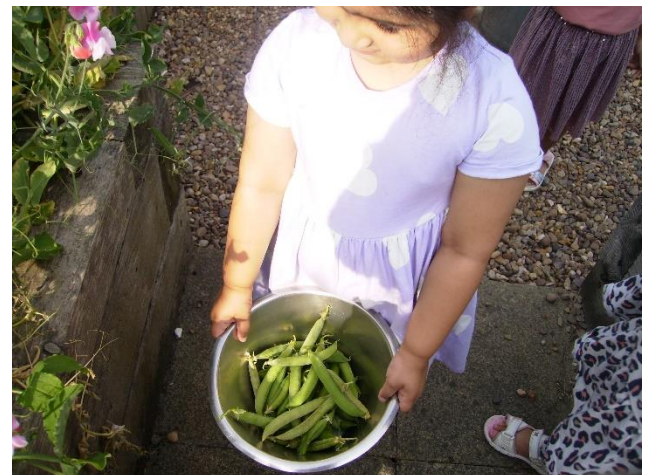
When we visited the allotment we noticed that the flowers and vegetables had started to grow. Can you see the pea pods on the peas?

Once everything was ready we all helped to harvest what we had grown. First we collected the raspberries.



Next we collected the peas, Cassie showed us how to open the peas so we could all have a taste.





We also collected fruit and vegetables for Vicky our cook. She used what we collected to make our lunches.

