## Our World Holiday Booklet \#2

## Nature has not been cancelled!



## Plants in our Garden

At this time, let's focus our attention on our home and family. Learning to understand and respect this part of our world more.

This can only help us to understand the greater world better.
Each topic will contain a collection of activities that promote backyard learning and exploration and well-being.

These activities promote engagement and the use of our heads, our hearts and our hands.

For students Year Prep to Three.

## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

Getting to know our Garden - Blindfold game.


This activity requires a parent or responsible older sibling.
Choose an area in your garden where there is room to move around blindfolded and there are different plants, shrubs and trees.

Blindfold your child and carefully lead them to a plant in the back yard. The aim is to help them to explore the features of the plant and get to know it.

Ask the blindfolded person to try these things:

- Feel the bark
- Try to work out how big the plant, tree is
- Smell the tree
- Feel the base of the plant
- Feel the shape of the leaf

When the blindfolded child has finished, lead them back to the starting position. They then must identify which plant they explored. Try again with another plant or tree.

## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

The power of observation - Treasure box


Take your child outside and position them in the yard where they can see different elements of the garden.

Give them 2 minutes to sit quietly and look around carefully at all things they can see.

After that time, send them inside and collect some objects that they should have noticed.
Collect: unusual-shaped rock, big fallen leaf, pegs, distinct plant leaf, flower,
Place in box. Ask your child to close their eyes and place one object at a time in their hands. See if they can identify the object and tell you where it can from.

## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

Discovery Hunt


This is a good activity to gets us outside and exploring our garden and yard.
Parents may have to read to younger children.
Look for the following items in your garden. Draw them in the box as you find them.

## GOOD LUCK with the Discovery Hunt


something smooth

something moved by air

something round
something rough


something moving

something important

something smaller than 5c
something that doesn't move


something smelly

something noisy

something pretty

something flat

Spot the difference. Take the time to look carefully.

See if you can spot the difference between these two pictures. Put a circle around things that are different.





Topic 1: Plants in our Garden
Parts of a plant.
Plants have different parts. Can you label each part correctly?

| leaves | seed | stem | roots | flower |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



Parts of a plant.
Every part of a plant is important. Read about each part below with someone in your family.


Create a book. "Leaf Shapes in my Garden"


Create a beautiful book containing the leaf shapes in your garden.
You will need:

- Crayons
- Baking paper, glue and a stapler
- Printed book templates
- A sunny day


## Directions:

1. Go outside a find different leaves in your garden.
2. Place each leaf on a flat hard surface and cover with a piece of baking paper
3. Pressing firmly, rub the crayon over the leaf
4. Cut out leaf shape and glue into your book
5. Colour title page below and staple pages together. Read with someone.


Create a book. "Leaf Shapes in my Garden"
Use these templates to create your book. Prep, Year 1 and Year 2

I found these leaves in my garden.

There are lots of leaves in my garden.

Create a book. "Leaf Shapes in my Garden"
Use these templates to create your book. Prep, Year 1 and Year 2

## Leaves have different shapes.

Look at these shapes.

Create a book. "Leaf Shapes in my Garden"
Use these templates to create your book. Year 2 and Year 3

The leaf is one of the most important parts of a plant. Leaves produce food for the plant through a process called photosynthesis. The leaves of different plants vary widely in size, shape, and colour.

Veins inside a plant's leaves work much like blood vessels inside an animal's body. They carry water and food to and from the leaves. Veins also provide the strong support that gives a leaf its shape.

Create a book. "Leaf Shapes in my Garden"
Use these templates to create your book. Year 2 and Year 3

Different types of leaves may be rounded, oval, spear shaped, heart shaped, or triangular. Some leaves look almost like fingers on a hand. Others are shaped like needles. Some leaves have smooth edges. Other leaves have tiny points, called teeth.

Inside all leaves are substances called pigments, which give leaves their colours. Green leaves get their colour from a green pigment called chlorophyll. Chlorophyll helps with the job of photosynthesis. It absorbs energy from sunlight. The leaves use this energy to make sugars, which are food for the plant.

## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

Leaf Survey.
Different plants have developed different leaf shapes over millions of year to help them better suit their particular environment. Leaves need to absorb sunlight to make food for the plant, exchange different gases with air, evaporate water and store food. Different shapes allow some plants to do some of these jobs better.

Let's look at what shapes you have in your garden. Walk around your garden and look at each plant. Record what leaf shape it has by putting $\checkmark$ in the box.

## Leaf Survey

|  |  | Ovate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Elliptic |  |
|  |  |  |

Which leaf shape is the most common in your garden? $\square$

Sorting the colours.
Gardens are like a rainbow - filled with lots of different colours.

## Directions:

1. Cut out each card.
2. Search your garden and find a natural object that matches the following colours.
3. Place the card next to the object.

## See if you can match all a colours!

| black | red | green |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| orange | yellow | pink |
| brown | prey |  |

## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

Leaf Art
Find some dead leaves in your garden and create a picture.
You will need:

- Old leaves
- A3 sheet of paper
- Glue
- Pencils.



## Topic 1: Plants in our Garden

A Nature Mask
Make a mask by finding things in your garden. Try not to pick living things - but look for dead leaves, sticks and flowers that have fallen on the ground.


You will need:

- Paper plate
- Glue
- A parent may have to put some eyes in your plate so you can see.

We would love to see what you create!!
Your parents can take a photo and upload it to our Facebook page - Jacobs Well Environmental Education Centre

Life cycles of Plants.

Plants grow and change through different stages. Can you complete the following?
Cut out the labels below and paste in the right position.


Create a knowledge tree
After exploring your garden, record all your discoveries on a knowledge tree.


You will need:

- Scissors and pencil
- Leaf template on next page
- Sticky tape
- Some long sticks from the garden
- A Pot to put your sticks in
- Some dirt to hold your sticks up in the pot.


## Directions:

1. Write your thoughts and findings on the leaf templates
2. You could write a word or sentence about:

- Words to describe your garden
- What you like in your garden. I like $\qquad$ .
- What plants grow there
- What shape the leaves are
- What colours are in your garden
- What animals visit your garden
- Your favourite spots?
- What flowers are there
- Why are gardens important?
- How many different plants are in your garden?

3. Cut out the leaves
4. Sticky tape the leaves onto your sticks.
5. Place your sticks in the pot and press in the dirt to hold them up.
6. Share with family

## Leaf templates: Write down your discoveries




Living and Once-Living - Year2/3

Plants are Living things as they display the observable characteristics of living things.

When a part of a plant is removed, it will die and no longer be able to breathe, grow, reproduce, move, eat or respond to stimulus.

## Characteristics of living things

$\checkmark$ Ability to Breathe (respire)
$\checkmark$ Ability to grow and change
$\checkmark$ Ability to reproduce
$\checkmark$ Ability respond to stimulus
$\checkmark$ Ability to move
$\checkmark$ Ability to eat (metabolise)

It is now classified as Once-Living.

Complete the table below by cutting and pasting the object and placing them in the correct area.

| LIVING | ONCE-LIVING |
| :---: | :---: |


|  |  | Roots of a tree | Sticks on ground |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A branch of a tree | 2 A <br> flower <br> ona <br> bush <br> 2  | Flowers in a vase | Tomatoes on a bush | A <br> tomato <br> for lunch |

Living and Non-Living - Year2/3

Some objects in our backyard will be LIVING or ONCE-LIVING.
But some objects will be NON-LIVING. Non-living objects do not have any of those characteristics of living things. They do not breathe, they do not move, they do not reproduce, they do not eat, and they do not respond to stimulus.

## Backyard Survey

Go outside into your backyard and write down 20 objects that you can see.

| 1. | 6. | 11. | 16. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. | 7. | 12. | 17. |
| 3. | 8. | 13. | 18. |
| 4. | 9. | 14. | 19. |
| 5. | 10. | 15. | 20. |

Now circle those objects that you think are non-living.
Pick two objects from your list and use the check sheet below to test if you got it right.

| Name of the object: |
| :--- |
| Tick what your object/thing can do: |
| $\square$ Move |
| $\square$ Breathe |
| $\square$ Eat |
| $\square$ Reproduce |
| $\square$ Respond to stimulus -touch, |
| no water, too much sun, a |
| cat |
| $\square$ Grow and Change |
| Is this object Living or Non-Living? |

## Name of the object:

Tick what your object/thing can do:
$\square$ Move
$\square$ Breathe
$\square$ Eat
$\square$ Reproduce
$\square$ Respond to stimulus -touch, no water, too much sun, a cat

- Grow and Change

Is this object Living or Non-Living?

Challenge Activity: A once-living and non-living sculpture.

Create a sculpture in your backyard.


## Rules:

- You can only use NON-LIVING and ONCE-LIVING objects.
- Do not pick any LIVING things
- Collect most of the items from your backyard.


## Have fun!

Please take a photo and ask your parent to post it on our Facebook page - Jacobs Well Environmental Education Centre.
We look forward to seeing them.

