

From Farm to Food: Processes of Life – Plants.

Interactive Tour and Hands-On Activity

Class Level: 5th & 6th Class **Group size:** 30 max per visit

Duration of visit: 2.5 Hours **Part One:** Interactive Tour (1 Hour) **Break:** 30 minutes

Part Two: Hands-On Activity (1 hour)

Part One: From Farm to Food: Processes of Life – Plants

Curriculum Links:

SESE Geography (Natural Environments: Rocks and Soils)

SESE History (Life, Society, Work and Culture in the Past: Life in the 19th Century & Continuity and Change Over Time: Food and Farming)

Brief Description:

This activity will take place in the museum galleries, using images and objects from the museum collection to develop concepts such as: How the soil and rock type of an area will determine what plants and crops can be grown. The process of photosynthesis and the importance of nutrients for plants and humans. The germination of potatoes and cereals. Learn about the harvest and recognise the associated tools and objects.

Aims & Objectives:

The aim of this activity is to use the museum galleries and exhibitions to provide the children with an understanding of the requirements for plant growth, how they grow and some ways in which plants reproduce. The child will also develop an understanding of the importance of plants for food and nutrition.



Preparation needed:

Children should be aware of the importance of food for energy and growth. They should also be familiar with the food pyramid and the different food groups.

Materials & Equipment:

Clipboards and pencils. A diagram of the process of photosynthesis, a diagram of the food pyramid and of PH levels. All materials & equipment are provided.



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National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

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From Farm to Food: Processes of Life – Plants.

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Part Two: Hands-On Activity (1 hour)

Part Two: Soil Classification, PH level and Starch Test



Curriculum Links:

SESE Science (Living Things: Plant and Animal Life & Human Life)

SESE Geography (Natural Environments: Rocks and Soils)

Social, Personal and Health Education (Myself: Taking Care of my body)

Brief Description:

Children will be divided into groups and will use work sheets to predict and record the outcome of each experiment. These hands-on experiment will provide for the distinction between acidic and alkaline soils, as well as gaining the knowledge of the three basic soil classifications of sand, silt and clay. Children will understand the concept of a PH scale and learn the difference between an alkaline and an acid. Children will discover the importance of starch and examine what starch is and where it is found.

Aims & Objectives:

The aim of this activity is to provide the group with an understanding of soil types, the difference between

acid and alkaline, and to provide the students with an appreciation of the role of starch in everyday life. The three experiments also aim to provide the students with an awareness of scientific investigation through the methods involved.

Preparation needed:

Children should be aware of the importance of food for energy and growth. They should also be familiar with the food pyramid and the different food groups.

Materials & Equipment:

Blue and pink litmus paper, tincture of iodine, dropper bottles, jars, funnel and measuring jug. All materials and equipment are provided.

Teacher's Comments:

'Very positive experience'
Cloonlyon N.S

'The children enjoyed the experience & participated very well'
Tavneena N.S



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