



# Looking after plants

## The unit challenge

The activities in this Challenge unit will extend learners’ knowledge of the following topics in the Learner’s Book and Activity Book:

Topic	In this topic, learners will:
1.1 Plants and their parts	see Skills Builder, Section 1.1
1.2 Plants need light and water	learn that plants need light and water
1.3 Transporting water	see Skills Builder, Section 1.3
1.4 Plant growth and temperature	learn that most plants grow best when it is warm

## Help your learner

In this unit, learners will practise measuring using simple equipment and recording observations (Section 1.2). They will also draw conclusions from evidence and begin to use scientific knowledge to suggest explanations (Section 1.4). To help them:

- 1 Encourage learners to grow a young plant and measure and record its height every few days. Help them to observe the changes in the plant carefully as it grows. Draw pictures or take photographs to help see the differences.
- 2 Help learners to look in the local area for more evidence about how plants grow in different conditions.

## TEACHING TIP

Ask learners to practise making measurements. They could measure the height of other plants and the temperature in different places or at different times of day.



1.2 Plants need light and water

measure, growth, plant,  
height, light, water

Plant growth

**Resources**  
You will need a ruler.

**Remember:**  
Remember to measure from the soil to the top of the plant.



Look at this plant growing.

1 Use a ruler to measure the growth of the plant each day.

Day 1

height

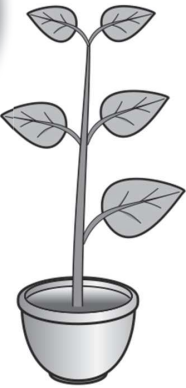

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Day 10

height

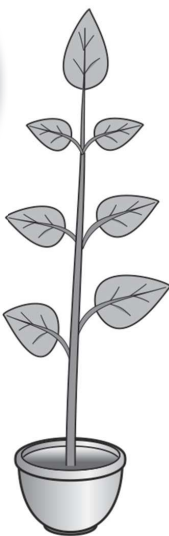

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Day 20

height



\_\_\_\_\_



Day 30

height

\_\_\_\_\_



**2** How many centimetres did the plant grow from day 10 to day 20?

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**3** What happened to the number of leaves as the plant grew?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4** Why do you think the plant is smaller on day 30?

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\_\_\_\_\_

**5** What does the plant need to keep it alive?

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**6 Think about it!**

Why do you think plants grow taller in the dark?

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\_\_\_\_\_

### CHECK YOUR LEARNING

☐ I can measure **height** carefully.

☐ I know that plants need **light** and **water**.

1.4 Plant growth and temperature

The best place for plants

1 Where is the best place to grow these plants? Why?

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\_\_\_\_\_

2 What can you use to measure temperature?

\_\_\_\_\_

3 What happens to plants that are too hot or too cold?

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4 **Think about it!**

Why is it hard for roots to absorb water when it is very cold? (Clue: What happens to water when it is very cold?)

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CHECK YOUR LEARNING

☐ I know that most plants grow best when they are **warm**.

temperature, hot, cold, roots, absorb, warm

