Age 5-7

Time

Preparation and growing time - 2 months
Climbing and crawling activity -
30 to 45 minutes

Before the lesson begins
You should encourage the children to sow their seeds in trays or pots, keeping the *Nasturtium* and *bean* seeds in separate containers. Seedlings should be transplanted to a cool, light outside area to grow to maturity.

Remind the children that the experiment should be 'fair' i.e. that both sets of seeds should have the same growth medium (soil) and receive the same amount of water, warmth and light.

Materials
Trays of *bean* and *Nasturtium* seedlings.
Ruler.
Pupil worksheet 3.

Extension activities
Pea seeds.

activity 5

Climbing and crawling

Through this activity children can learn:

- that plants grow in different ways
- that plants can move by growing

Skills developed:

- observation
- measuring
- recording
- comparison
- prediction

The activity:

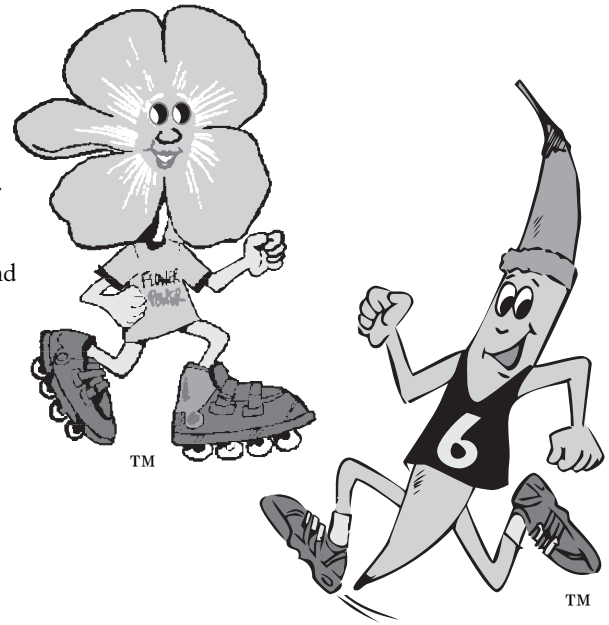
- Introduce the children to some *bean* and *Nasturtium* seedlings.
- Ask the children to select one healthy *bean* seedling and one healthy *Nasturtium* seedling and measure how tall the plant is and how far along the soil it has grown. Measurements should be made at regular intervals, ideally over a number of weeks. Record the results in Pupil Workheet 3. (Note: the *beans* should grow tall and the *Nasturtiums* should grow along the ground).
- Explain to the children that the *beans* grow tall and 'climb' by curling around stakes and other supports. *Nasturtiums* stay short but grow by 'crawling' along the ground.

Key questions:

Q1. Do plants move?

Extension activities:

- Grow some *peas* and show the children that *peas* have tendrils to help them hang on as they grow.
- Measure a young (baby) *Nasturtium* seedling and continue these measurements at regular intervals. Ask the children to decide when the plant is fully grown (adult). Each plant should reach a maximum size. Generally for the *Nasturtium* variety this is about 7 cm from the ground.



My name _____

My plant is called a _____

Week	Height:	Width:
Week	Height:	Width:
Week	Height:	Width:
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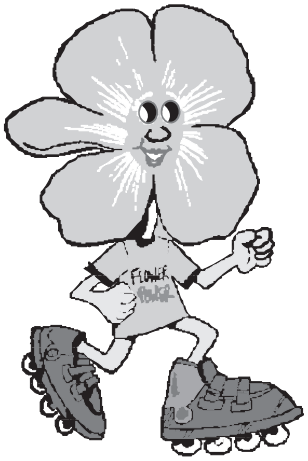

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