

Cress growing experiment.

Teacher information:

This experiment is designed to show students that plants need water to grow.

Students should be encouraged to draw conclusions about the cress in both conditions, and to think about what would happen if the cress was a plant in an area experiencing a drought. This will give students an opportunity to think about the consequences of climate change.

The experiment is designed to support the Department for Education National Curriculum in England, covering the key stage 1 and 2 science programmes of study. The curriculum requires students to:

- Ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways
- Observe closely, using simple equipment
- Perform simple tests
- Identify and classify
- Use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
- Gather and record data to help in answering questions
- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants
- Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- Pupils might work scientifically by: observing and recording, with some accuracy, the growth of a variety of plants as they change over time from a seed or bulb, or observing similar plants at different stages of growth; setting up a comparative test to show that plants need light and water to stay healthy.

Students can also think about the different variables in this experiment and how to control for additional variables, such as light.



For accompanying teaching resources, visit:

www.abpischools.org.uk