

PRE SCHOOL / LOWER PRIMARY

Pre-visit Activities

Pre-visit activities are designed to help students enjoy the *Replant* exhibition and assist them to make connections with other experiences and knowledge.

In the classroom

- Read stories about Aboriginal culture, plants or nature
- Talk about visiting the exhibition and what they will see
- Show the children pictures of plants and flowers
- · Ask them to talk about plants they have in their gardens at home
- Talk about plants that grow in the bush and can be eaten and used

Ask the children to bring in fruit or herbs that are growing in their garden at home

- Look at the plants discuss how they are different
- Talk about how the plant is used by people
- Try eating some of the plants
- Look at the different colours
- Look at the different shapes
- Draw or paint different kinds of plants plant

At the exhibition

Gallery activities are based around Children's Labels which are displayed with various works in the exhibition

- Organise the students into small groups with a leader
- Look at the works and read out the Children's Labels
- Encourage students to talk and share ideas about what they are seeing and hearing
- Take fruits and berries in a basket for morning tea

Post-visit activities

- 1 Potato prints
- 2 Plant collections

Activity 1

1 Potato prints

Materials

- Poster or other non-toxic paints
- Poster board or construction paper
- Polystyrene trays
- Potatoes
- Old shirts to wear over their clothing
- Newspaper to cover the table
- Paper towels for hands

What to do:

Spread the table with newspaper to protect your work area. Prepare the potatoes ahead of time by cutting them in half.

You may like to carve the potatoes into shapes or simple designs to make patterns.

Put a small amount of paint in the trays for dipping. Each dip will print multiple times.



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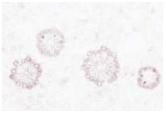
Activity 1 Potato prints continued

Children can also use paintbrushes to paint their vegetables.

Carefully print the potato shapes by pressing onto the paper, transferring the ink from the vegetable surface to the paper.

This is called printmaking. Try making a picture of a garden using the potato shapes.







Activity 2

Plant collections and leaf rubbings

Materials

- A collection of fresh leaves
- Wax crayons (autumn colours)
- Art paper

What to do:

Go on a nature walk and collect various kinds of leaves. Point out different kinds of leaves. Strong leaves with well-defined veins are best for this leaf rubbing. Pick leaves large and small, but make sure they are still supple enough not to crumble when you touch them.

Back in the classroom, spread out your collection of leaves and provide each child with a piece of paper and crayons.

Show the children how to hold the paper firmly over a leaf, so that the leaf does not move.

Holding the crayon horizontally over the paper, rub over the leaf gently so that its pattern appears on the page. This is called a rubbing.

Experiment with different leaves and other shapes.

If the children enjoy this activity, repeat it using a variety of objects like coins and rub over them carefully with a HB pencil.