

# Planting and growing poppy seeds practitioner's notes.



## Introduction

Before the children are involved in the following activities they could take part in a discussion about the poppy and what it signifies using prior knowledge and experiences where children may have seen people wearing poppies around the time of Remembrance Day.

This will obviously be a general discussion driven by the children but could include:

- It is a flower which grows wild outside.
- It is used to remember people who have died.
- It grows from a seed and produces a red flower.

## Planting and growing poppy seeds

The children help prepare the soil for planting seeds. Discussions focus on the need for soil to get lots of air to give the seeds room to grow. Once the seeds have been planted discussions focus on what the plant will need to grow and where the seeds should be positioned to help with this process.

With the aid of the picture cards (poppy seeds resource P5) discussion can focus on how poppy seeds and other plants grow from seed to flower and what they need to grow.

As the children look after the plants while they are growing, they should be encouraged to record the growth of their poppy using a range of methods, e.g. use of digital camera, drawing etc. or using the 'Poppy seed diary' (poppy seeds resource P7). Their records could include labels which name the basic parts of the plant (poppy seeds resource P8) and measurements over time.

The children should also be encouraged to use comparative language in their observations during this process. (If required poppy seeds resource P9 can be used as an ordering activity).

## The Big Question

What is the significance of the poppy?

### Level

Early

### Experiences and Outcomes

I develop and extend my literacy skills when I have opportunities to communicate, collaborate and build relationships.

#### LIT OA

As I listen and talk in different situations, I am learning to take turns and am developing my awareness of when to talk and when to listen.

#### LIT 0-02a

As I listen and take part in conversations and discussions, I discover new words and phrases which I use to help me express my ideas, thoughts and feelings.

#### LIT 0-10a

Learning in the sciences will enable me to develop curiosity and understanding of the environment and my place in the living, material and physical world.

#### SCN OA

I have observed living things in the environment over time and am becoming aware of how they depend on each other.

#### SCN 0-01a

I have helped to grow plants and can name their basic parts. I can talk about how they grow and what I need to do to look after them.

#### SCN 0-03a

I have experimented with everyday items as units of measure to investigate and compare sizes and amounts in my environment, sharing my findings with others.

#### MNU 0-11a

### Additional Resources

Poppy seeds resource P5, P7, P8 & P9

Poppy seeds can be ordered from our website.

[www.poppyscotland.org.uk/education](http://www.poppyscotland.org.uk/education)