Investigation: “Effect of Light and Water on Plant Growth”

Children will need six plants (sunflowers, for instance). One plant for each group.

The six plants must be the same size and placed in six identical pots with the same amount of soil in each, for this to be a fair test.

Children will mark six labels: Plant 1, Plant 2 and Plant 3, Plant 1 B, Plant 2 B, Plant 3B and they will put a label on each plant pot.

They will put:
- Plant 1 (control pot) on a windowsill and keep it moist (in sunlight and with water).
- Plant 2 in a dark cupboard and keep the soil moist (no sunlight but with water).
- Plant 3 on the same windowsill, but leave the soil to dry out (in sunlight but without water)
Children should discuss what they think will happen to the plants and write down their own predictions (activity 5). They will have one sheet per group. They have to use the frame:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I think it will</th>
<th>Die</th>
<th>Grow</th>
<th>Became yellow</th>
<th>Became weak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

They will leave the plants where they are for a week, making sure the soil in pot 1 and 2 is kept moist. They will take a picture of the plant at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of the investigation and stick it on their investigation sheet. After a week, children will find out what has happened to the plants. They will check if their predictions were right or wrong and they will try to explain the reasons why they think that has happened.

Finally they will have to explain their investigation to the rest of the class.

- Language support for describing the final state

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The plant</th>
<th>is alive</th>
<th>has died</th>
<th>has grown</th>
<th>has become yellow</th>
<th>has become green and healthy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**Language support for explaining the investigation**

| First | We Our group | predicted | the plant | Will live  
|-------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------
|       |              |           |           | Will die  
|       |              |           |           | Will grow  
|       |              |           |           | Will become  
|       |              |           |           | yellow  
|       |              |           |           | Will become  
|       |              |           |           | green and  
|       |              |           |           | healthy  

| Then | ...... day | the plant | Changed 
|------|----------|-----------|---------
|      |          |           | Did not change  

| Finally | what has happened | is | the plant | is alive  
|---------|-------------------|----|-----------|----------
|         |                   |    |           | has died  
|         |                   |    |           | has grown  
|         |                   |    |           | has become  
|         |                   |    |           | yellow  
|         |                   |    |           | has become  
|         |                   |    |           | green and  
|         |                   |    |           | healthy  

Plants                                                                                                    Marta Hernández
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