

Lesson Plan: My Amazing Plant Adventure!

Materials Needed:

- One small, real potted plant (like a marigold, herb, or bean sprout)
 - Large sheet of paper or poster board
 - Construction paper in various colors (especially brown, green, and a bright color for a flower like yellow or red)
 - Child-safe scissors
 - Glue stick
 - Crayons or markers
 - **Optional:** Play-Doh in different colors
 - **Optional Snack:** A vegetable that shows different plant parts (e.g., carrots for roots, celery for a stem, spinach for leaves)
-

1. Learning Objectives (Goals for Today)

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to:

- Identify at least three main parts of a plant: **roots**, **stem**, and **leaves**.
- Create a simple model of a plant using craft materials.
- Describe the simple job of each plant part in their own words (e.g., "roots drink water," "leaves eat the sunshine").

2. The Hook: Waking Up Our Curiosity (5 Minutes)

Step 1: The Mystery Guest

- Bring out the real potted plant and place it on the table. Present it like a special guest.
- Ask engaging questions to spark curiosity:
 - "Look who came to visit us today! What do you think this is?"
 - "What colors do you see on our plant friend?"
 - "How does it feel? Can you gently touch a leaf?"

Step 2: The Plant Song

- Sing a simple song to introduce the idea of plant parts. Sing to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes":
- *(Point to the air/ground as you sing)*
- "Roots, Stems, Leaves, and Flowers, Leaves and Flowers,"
- "Roots, Stems, Leaves, and Flowers, Leaves and Flowers,"
- "We are all parts of a plant!"

3. Main Activity: Let's Build a Plant! (15-20 Minutes)

This is a hands-on activity where the student builds their own plant from the ground up, learning the function of each part as they go.

1. Make the Roots:

- **Teacher says:** "Every plant has feet that live under the ground to slurp up water and food."
-

They are called **roots**! They also hold the plant steady in the dirt."

- **Action:** Have the student tear or cut strips of brown construction paper. Help them glue the wiggly "roots" onto the bottom of the large paper.

2. Add the Stem:

- **Teacher says:** "Next, the plant needs a strong body to stand up tall and reach for the sun. This is the **stem**. It works like a straw, carrying water from the roots all the way up."
- **Action:** Help the student cut a long, thick strip of green paper and glue it above the roots.

3. Create the Leaves:

- **Teacher says:** "How does a plant eat? It eats sunlight! The **leaves** are like little hands that catch the sunshine to make food for the plant."
- **Action:** Let the student draw and cut out leaf shapes from green paper, or you can have them pre-cut. Glue them onto the stem.

4. Grow a Flower (Extension):

- **Teacher says:** "To look beautiful and make seeds, many plants grow a **flower**! What color should our flower be?"
- **Action:** Use a brightly colored piece of paper to create a flower shape and glue it to the top of the stem.

4. Exploration & Connection: Plant Detectives (10 Minutes)

- **Compare the Craft to Reality:** Place the student's finished plant craft next to the real potted plant. Ask them to be a "Plant Detective" and find the matching parts. "Can you find the real stem? Where are the real leaves? Where do you think the roots are hiding?" (Answer: in the soil!).
- **Go on a Nature Walk:** If possible, take a quick walk outside to look at different plants (a tree, a bush, a flower). Point out the stems, leaves, and talk about the strong roots hiding underground. This connects the lesson to the world around them.

5. Assessment & Wrap-Up: Show What You Know! (5 Minutes)

This is a fun, pressure-free way to see what the student has learned.

- **Point and Tell:** While looking at their craft, point to a part (e.g., the leaves) and ask, "What is this called? What is its special job?"
- **Plant Snack Time (Optional but effective):** Prepare a simple snack. As you eat, explain what part of the plant you are eating. "We are eating a carrot! A carrot is a **root** that grows underground." or "This celery stick is crunchy! It's the **stem** of the celery plant." This provides a delicious, memorable connection to the lesson.

6. Differentiation (Making it Work for Your Child)

- **For Extra Support:** Pre-cut all the construction paper shapes. Focus on just two main parts, like the stem and leaves, and add the others later. Use hand-over-hand guidance for gluing.
- **For an Extra Challenge:** Introduce more complex parts, like petals, seeds, or fruit. Ask "what if" questions, such as, "What do you think would happen if a plant had no roots?" or "Why do leaves need the sun?" Encourage the student to draw the sun and raindrops on their picture to show what plants need to live.