



# Beavers Gardener Activity Badge



1. Find out what happens to trees in each of the four seasons

*Activity: Label each season and find out what happens to their leaves!*



Take a look at some trees outside and see what season we are in

2. Learn what tools you need to garden with and how to use some of the tools safely

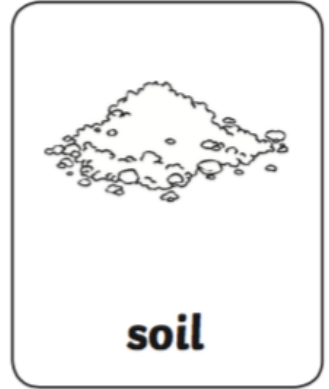
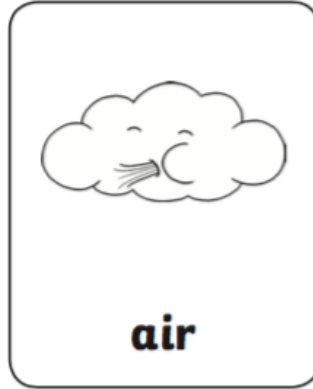
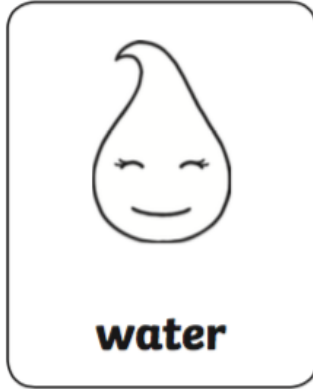
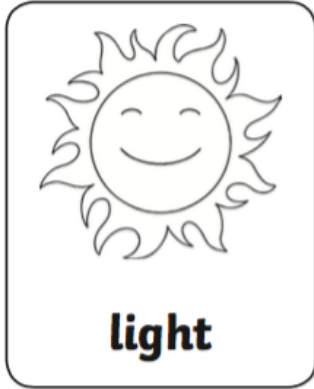
*Activity: Can you either find out from an adult or look up on the internet: Pruning Shears, Shovel & Rake and what they are used for safely in the garden?*

### 3. Find out what plants need to grow

*Activity: Complete Activity Sheet*

## Plants Need...

Use the words below to finish the sentences.



Many plants need \_\_\_\_\_ from the sun.

Many plants need \_\_\_\_\_ or they will dry out.

Many plants need \_\_\_\_\_ to grow their roots in.  
They get the nutrients they need from the soil.

Plants need \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
which they use to make food.

Plants need these four things:

Plants Need...	My Pictures of What Plants Need
1. w _ _ _ _	
2. a _ _	
3. s _ _ _ _	
4. l _ _ _ _	

#### 4. Grow at least three different plants in pots and look after them for two months

#### *Activity: Let's get potting and planting!*

Here are some top tips for growing plants, potatoes and vegetables!

## Micr ogreens

Microgreens are the seedlings of young salad leaves, vegetable and herbs, which are harvested and eaten around one to two weeks after sowing. They are perfect for sowing on a rainy day and can be grown inside on a sunny windowsill or in a greenhouse. Microgreens are very popular in restaurants! They are a great way of growing and tasting lots of different vegetables in a short time.



#### **What you need**

- Suitable seeds (Suggestions include basil, coriander, rocket, lettuce, radish, red cabbage, kale, broccoli, Swiss chard, spinach and mustard)
- Seed trays
- Seed compost
- Water spray bottle

#### **What to do**

1. Fill the seed trays with seed compost and level off the surface.
2. Spray the surface of the compost with water.
3. Thinly sprinkle the seeds on the surface of the compost. Try not to let the seeds touch each other, but they do not need to be widely spaced apart. They will only grow very small before you pick them.
4. Cover the seeds with a thin layer of compost.
5. Place the trays on a sunny windowsill or in the greenhouse.
6. Regularly spray the trays with water to keep the compost moist, but not wet.
7. Your microgreens will be ready to harvest when the seedlings' first true leaves appear. They will get their seed leaves first - the true leaves will look like the actual leaves of the plant.
8. Use scissors to cut the microgreens just above the level of the compost, wash them and eat them.

# Planting Potatoes

Potatoes are the ideal crop for a school garden. If you plant them at the start of the summer term, you can leave them over the long holidays and harvest them in the autumn. They can be planted straight into the garden.

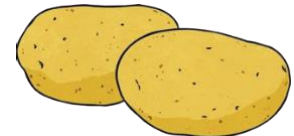
## What you need

- Chitted maincrop seed potatoes
- Gardening gloves
- Trowels and forks
- Rake



## What to do

1. Make sure the planting area is weed-free. Children could use a fork to pull up any weeds.
2. Dig a hole which is 7cm to 15cm deep for each potato. The potatoes should be placed around 35cm apart.
3. Plant the potatoes with the shoots pointing upwards and cover them with soil.
4. Watch for shoots appearing. When the plants are about 20cm tall, 'earth up' the growing plants by drawing soil up over the stem and leaves, leaving about 10cm exposed to the Sun. This prevents the growing tubers being pushed up into the light, which will turn them green.
5. In September, cut the stems down to about 5cm and leave them for two weeks before harvesting.
6. Harvest the potatoes on a dry day and leave them to dry on the surface of the soil for a few hours.
7. Store them in paper bags in a cool, frost-free place.



## 5. Keep a record of what you have done and the changes you see

**Activity: Draw pictures or take photographs of your plants and watch them grow!**

**Have fun!**