

# SEEDS TO TREES

## 5-14 NATIONAL GUIDELINES – Environmental Studies: Science TEACHERS SHEET HELPING ACORNS GROW WELL

### Session aim:

To allow pupils to understand the importance of planting tree seeds carefully and the requirements of tree seeds to grow into trees

### Activity:

Use pupil activity sheet 'Planting your acorns' to learn the process of planting a tree seed.

Use pupil activity sheet 'Growing healthy trees' to distinguish the difference between a tree seed that is planted well and will grow healthily, and one that has been planted badly and will struggle to grow.

### Extension activities

- Ideally follow this activity with a hands-on experience of tree planting. This could be at an organised tree planting, or planting trees in the school grounds.
- Pupils could find out more information about what other kinds of plants need, to help them grow. They could then explore the similarities and differences between those and the needs of a tree to grow.

### 5-14 Environmental Studies National Guideline links:

#### Science: The processes of life

Level C: describe the broad functions of the main parts of flowering plants

#### Science: Interaction of living things with their environment

Level A: give examples of how to care for living things

Level C: explain how living things and the environment can be protected

Level D: give examples of how plants and animals are suited to their environment

#### Skills in Science: : Investigating

**Preparing, carrying out and reviewing** – undertaking fair testing, observing & measuring, recording & presenting findings, interpreting & evaluating results.

#### Science: Developing Informed Attitudes

**Respect and care for self and others** – safe and responsible care of living things and their environment

**Social and Environmental Responsibility** – importance of interrelationships between living things and environment; consequences of different choices and courses of action

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## 5-14 NATIONAL GUIDELINES –

### Environmental Studies: Science

### PUPIL ACTIVITY SHEET

### PLANTING YOUR ACORNS

Draw a picture in each of the boxes below to explain the process:

<p>1. Soak acorns in water overnight</p>	<p>2. Put a few stones in the bottom of a pot to help the water drain out.</p>	<p>3. Put compost or soil in the pot until 2/3 full. Water the soil.</p>
<p>4. Put one acorn per pot as they need lots of room to grow.</p>	<p>5. Cover the acorn with a layer of soil so that it is hidden.</p>	<p>6. Place a plastic bag over the pot and fasten it tightly. Put the pot in a sunny place.</p>
<p>7. It could take a few months for your acorn to start growing. As soon as the seedling appears, remove the plastic bag. Water the seedling once or twice a week.</p>	<p>8. In the summer put your seedling outside if you can.</p>	<p>9. In autumn, plant it in the ground where you want it to grow. Dig a hole bit a bigger than the pot. Gently lift out the seedling with its soil from the pot and place in the hole. Firm the soil down around the roots and water well.</p>