

FLEMINGTON FOOD FOREST - TEACHER'S NOTES

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Lesson 5 – Adaptation

Objective:

This lesson explores plant adaptations to their environment and how certain plants won't thrive if their environment changes.

Activities

1. In groups the students should list all the different environments/climates they can think of e.g. snow, desert, rainforest, etc.
2. Discuss how some plants adapt to harsh environments like the desert, the tops of snowy mountains, etc. Ask them to find which plants with hinged signs have a symbol with just one water drop to show they are drought tolerant.

Extra challenge

- a. Ask the children to each pick one leaf from the garden. In groups get them to group the leaves that are from drought tolerant plants and explain why. Some things to consider:
 - Surface area – smaller leaves, needle like have less surface to loose water
 - Colour – light colours reflect light where dark ones absorb it
 - Storage – some leaves are fleshy like Aloe Vera to store water.
 - Texture – hairs or waxy coatings can trap water

<http://mff.dsisd.net/Environment/WinterTrees.htm>

<http://isebindia.com/icpep-5/icpep5-s-3.html>

http://www.botanic.co.uk/FCKfiles/File/8_1_tttTeacher%27s_Notes_Awesome_Adaptations.pdf