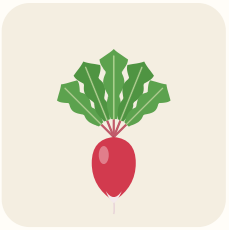
AGES 3–6 · TEACHER PAGE

What plants need

By looking at the MAVA and two small seed cups, children find out that plants need water, light, air and food.



30 min, then 5 min a day for a week | MAVA : HYDRO SLIM OLLA COMPOST

KEY QUESTION **What does a plant need to live?**

OBJECTIVES

1. Recognise what a plant needs: water, light, air, food.
2. Compare with our own needs.
3. Spot how the MAVA provides them.

MATERIALS

- The class MAVA
- Two cups of cress or radish, sown a week earlier
- The pupil sheet, pencils

CURRICULUM LINKS

NGSS	**K-LS1-1**: Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.
NATIONAL CURRICULUM	**Year 2 · Plants** (early introduction): plants need water, light and a suitable temperature.
IB PYP	**How the world works**

LESSON STEPS

1 **Ask** 5 min	In front of the MAVA: 'What does it give the plants?' Water from the reservoir or ollas, light from the window, air, food (nutrients or compost).
2 **Sort** 10 min	Pupil sheet: circle what the plant needs, cross out the rest.
3 **Test** 5 min a day	For a week, water only one of the two cups. Each day, the children observe and draw.
4 **Conclude** 10 min	Without water, the plant wilts. Like us, it needs to drink, but it makes its own food using light. Water the second cup: it often perks up within hours.

ASSESS

The child names at least three needs and points to them on the MAVA.

VOCABULARY

water, light, air, food, wilt, grow

EXTENSION

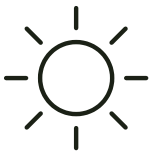
What if we hid a plant in a cupboard? See lesson PE-04.

AGES 3–6 · PUPIL SHEET

What plants need

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

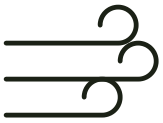
1 Circle what the plant needs. Cross out what it does not need.


light


a sweet


water


a TV


air


a ball


food


a shoe

2 On day 7, draw the two cups.

WATERED

NOT WATERED

3 Draw your plant with everything it needs.