AGES 8–11 · TEACHER PAGE

Measuring growth

Each week, pupils measure three plants on the MAVA, then plot and interpret a graph.



10 min a week for 6 weeks, then 45 min | MAVA : HYDRO SLIM OLLA COMPOST

KEY QUESTION How fast do our plants grow?

OBJECTIVES

1. Measure accurately and record results in a table.
2. Plot a graph from their own measurements.
3. Compare three plants and suggest explanations.

MATERIALS

- A ruler or tape measure
- Three labels: A, B and C
- Pencils in three colours
- The pupil sheet

CURRICULUM LINKS

NATIONAL CURRICULUM	**Lower KS2 · Working scientifically**: systematic and careful observations, accurate measurements using standard units, tables and charts.
NGSS	**3-LS3-2**: Use evidence to support the explanation that traits can be influenced by the environment.
IB PYP	**How the world works** · links to mathematics

LESSON STEPS

1 **Choose** 10 min	Pick three plants of different species or heights on the tower, e.g. a lettuce low down, a basil in the middle, a rocket at the top. Label them A, B, C.
2 **Measure** 10 min / wk	Always the same method: from the rim of the cup or opening to the highest leaf. Count the leaves too.
3 **Plot** 25 min	After 6 weeks, each pupil plots three lines in different colours on the grid.
4 **Interpret** 20 min	Which plant grows fastest? Is it the species, or its position on the tower, with more or less light? How could we check?

ASSESS

Measurements are regular; the graph has a title, labelled axes and units.

VOCABULARY

measure, centimetre, table, graph, axis, growth

EXTENSION

Put the same species at the top and the bottom of the tower to test the effect of light.

AGES 8–11 · PUPIL SHEET

Measuring growth

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

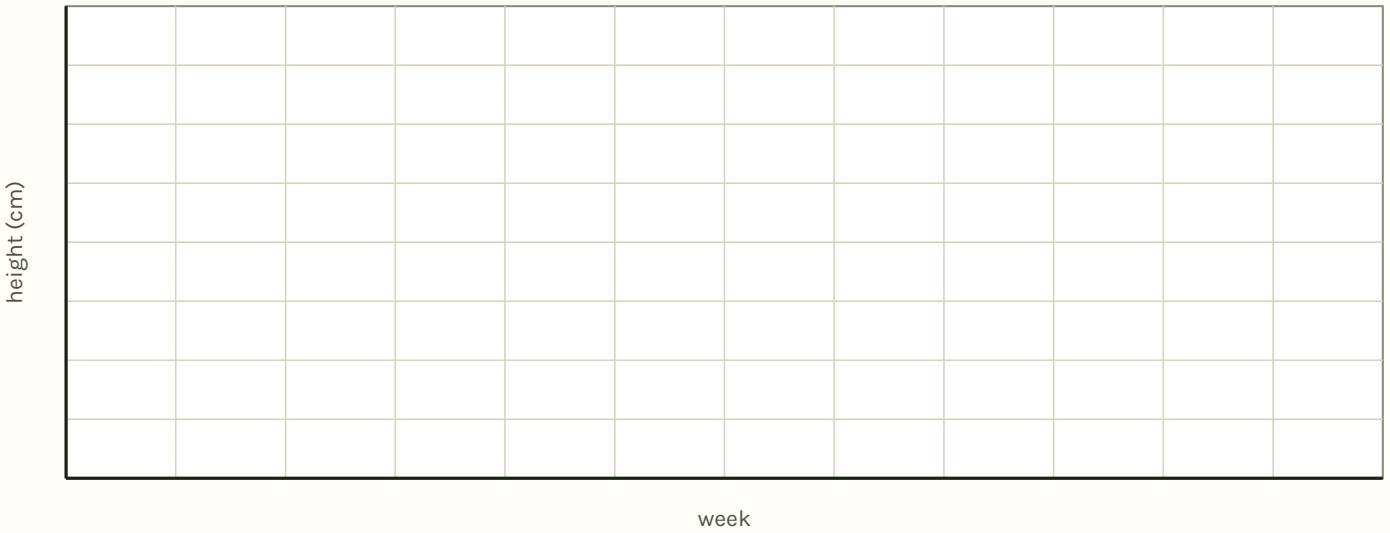
PLANT A _____ PLANT B _____ PLANT C _____

1 Each week, measure from the rim of the cup to the highest leaf.

Week	A · cm	A · leaves	B · cm	B · leaves	C · cm	C · leaves
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

2 Plot one line per plant, each in a different colour. Don't forget a title.

GRAPH TITLE _____



3 Which plant grew fastest? Suggest an explanation.

_____

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