

TOPIC LEARNING MAT

Year 1/2 Summer 1 2025

THE BIG QUESTION: What character would you like to be and why?

Exciting Texts:

Books by Julia Donaldson:

The Ugly Five and A Squash and a Squeeze.

Key Vocabulary:

plants, seeds, bulbs, root, stem, sepal, ovule, anther, pollen, petal, observe, locality, Judaism, Shabbat

Let it Grow!

We will be learning about:

Julia Donaldson, parts of a plant, plants we eat, geography of the local area, the work of artist Sarah Taylor.

Sticky Knowledge

Julia Donaldson was born in 1948. In 2019 she was awarded a special award by the queen for her writing.

Parts of a plant and their function - roots absorb minerals and water from the soil, leaves make food for the plant, stems transport water around the plant, petals attract insects to the flower, ovule becomes the seed or fruit, anthers release pollen, sepal protects the flower while it's growing.

Shabbat is the day of rest and celebration for Jewish people. It begins on Friday evening and ends on Saturday evening.

Home Challenge 1 Make a magic potion, collect flowers, leaves and herbs to make a lovely smelling potion. Does the water change colour? Which smells are the strongest?

Home Challenge 2 Plants we eat - We can eat different parts of some plants, roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds.

With your adult, see if you can eat a food for each part of a plant.

E.g. Carrot—root, cauliflower—flower, peas—seed.

Skills to practise

Recognising, describing and making repeating patterns.

Giving opinions and saying why.

Making careful observations and recordings.

Observing, drawing and labelling what they see.