Key Stage 2 Lesson 2 – Super Seagrass

Lesson Plan

Introduction

Seagrass is a very special flowering plant that lives in the sea. In the UK, we have two types of seagrasses. Seagrasses can form lush underwater meadows, some of which are large enough to be seen from Space! Seagrass is crucial in the fight against the climate crisis as it absorbs carbon dioxide faster than rainforests and produced ten times more oxygen than trees.

In this lesson, we explore what seagrass is, the roles of the different parts of the plant, what seagrass needs to grow and the amazing work that Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's marine team are carrying out to restore this fantastic habitat at Spurn National Nature Reserve.

Teaching and Learning

Task 1: Super seagrass PowerPoint presentation

- Start the lesson by presenting the PowerPoint to learn all about seagrass, a fascinating flowering plant that lives in the sea. Students will learn about a plant's requirements for growth, the amazing ecosystem benefits that seagrass meadows provide and the work Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is doing to restore the seagrass meadow at Spurn.

Task 2: Nearpod quiz

- Use the Nearpod link on the 'Marine Learning Pack' webpage and complete the quiz to test students' understanding of the PowerPoint presentation. Use the teacher's link to add the quiz to your resources and to be able to edit the quiz (you will need to create a free Nearpod account to do this) or use the student-paced link to allow students to complete the quiz in their own time (no Nearpod account needed).

Task 3: Practical activity – dissect a flower

- Students will learn to dissect a flower and to identify the different parts of the flower. Flowers with large parts work best for this practical, such as lilies or tulips. Students can work in pairs or individually depending on the number of flowers available.

Learning Outcomes

1) Describe what seagrass is
2) Explain the function of the organs of seagrass
3) Discuss why seagrass is special and why it is important that we protect it

Key Vocabulary

Flowering plant, continent, fruit, flower, stem, frond, roots, rhizome, seed, nutrients, photosynthesis, habitat, restore.

Links to the National Curriculum

Science

- **Living things and their habitats:**
  - Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
  - Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment
  - Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things
  - Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
  - Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals
  - Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
  - Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.
- **Working scientifically:**
  - Planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary
  - Taking measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate
  - Recording data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs
  - Using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests
  - Reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations
  - Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.
- **Evolution and inheritance:**
  - Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Geography

- **Human and physical geography:**
  - Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, including beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather.