

# Mini Ecosystem in a Bottle

## Year 3

Explore the requirements of plants for life and growth and how they vary from plant to plant.

## Year 4

Using straightforward scientific evidence to answer questions or to support their findings.

## Year 6

Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

## Organisation

- Children should work in pairs or threes.
- Before starting this activity, collect enough drinks bottles for one per child.
- Ensure the children wash their hands when handling natural resources.
- Ensure children are supervised when cutting the top off the bottles. Alternatively, jars with lids can be used.

## Additional Information

Mini ecosystems are a great way to observe growth at close quarters. The condensation and heat created within the bottle, is a perfect environment for natural growth. Encourage the children to record what they observe in their bottles over a number of days using the Mini Ecosystem Recording Sheet.