



Year Groups: Year 3-4

Length: 26 mins

Starting Positions: Sit in your own space on the floor

Learning Intentions:

To know about:

- Growing conditions for plants (soil, water, light)
- Plant reproduction: pollen from anthers transfers to another flower's carpel
- The role of insects in pollination
- Seeds (sometimes contained in fruit) make new plants

Synopsis:

- Your Mum tells you off for treading on her flowers. You stamp on more on purpose.
- A plant, Stemmy, is furious that you've stamped on his friends.
- Dr Cutemup wants to take the talking plant for experiments.
- You hide Stemmy in the attic (no light), the bathroom (no nutrients), then back in soil.
- Winston, a bee, tells you there's only one other 'Stemmy' - it's in Jamaica.
- You need to prove to Dr Cutemup how rare Stemmy is.
- Winston turns you into a bee. You collect Stemmy's pollen on your legs.
- You fly to Jamaica, and find Popa Tree, the only other plant like Stemmy.
- You pollinate Popa with Stemmy's pollen. Popa Tree gives you the last fruit he ever grew.
- Back at home Dr Cutemup doesn't believe Stemmy's rare until you Google the tree!
- Dr Cutemup makes your garden a protected area. You plant Popa Tree's seed in a pot.

Characters:

- **Mum** - a keen and protective gardener
- **Stemmy** - a very rare plant
- **Dr Cutemup** - Chief Botanist for the Government
- **Winston** - a Jamaican bee
- **Popa Tree** - a rare and elderly Jamaican tree, who grows delicious fruit

Locations:

- **Your House (garden, attic & bedroom)**
- **Jamaica**

Glossary:

- **Botanist** - a scientist who studies plants
- **Roots** - the part of the plant below earth which take up water and minerals
- **Stem** - the central, supporting structure of the plant
- **Photosynthesis** - the process by which plants turn CO₂, light and water into oxygen.
- **Nectar** - sugary liquid produced in the nectaries which attracts animals (like bees!)
- **Pollination** - when pollen is carried between plants (or in one plant - from anther to stigma). After this, fertilisation takes place
- **Carpel** - part of the flower which contains the ovules (tiny eggs). The receptive part is called the stigma.

Discussion Questions:

Story & Factual:

- Why didn't the plant grow in the attic? And the bathroom?
- Therefore name four things a plant needs to grow? *Water, light, & soil – also, air (or in fact CO₂)*
- How do bees help new flowers grow?
- What does a botanist do?
- What is the purpose of nectar? *Attract bees - different from pollen, which pollinates other flowers*
- What do all fruit have inside them?
- Extension question: What is the process of photosynthesis?

PSHE & Philosophical

- Can flowers feel it when humans trample on them?
- Why was your mother so angry when you stamped on her flowers if they can't feel it?
- You decided to take Stemmy and hide him from the government scientist. Are there some situations where it's OK to disobey adults?
- Stemmy turned out to be a very rare plant. Why is it important to look after rare plants and animals?
- What did the nectar taste like?

Resources:

You'll find these follow up resources on your shared drive:

- **Literacy Resources** – Reading Comprehension/Text Analysis, 3x SPAG exercises, Poem/Short writing exercise, Formal Prose, Creative Writing, Spelling Test
- **Photo Storyboard** – order the images from the story (or use them for other things – e.g. writing)
- **Quick Quiz** – re-cap key facts
- **Or try some recount, report or creative writing ideas of your own!**