

Killer Plants

Topic: Plants/Relationships/Food/Science **Curriculum link:** Natural Science

Text type: Explanation Reading level: 18 Word count: 469

Vocabulary: amazing, attract, balloon, bogs, ditches, drowns, insects, killer, liquid, nectar, slippery, soil, survive, tentacles, trapdoor, trapped

Possible literacy focus:

- Identifying words used in descriptions, e.g. tiny red hairs.
- Interpreting information in the text.
- Understanding new words: liquid, nectar, trapdoor.

Follow-up activities

Understanding text structure - Explanation

Explore the structure of an explanation with the children. This type of text usually presents a general statement about the topic followed by specific explanations. A conclusion sums up the topic. Show children the contents page and explain how it helps us locate the information we need. Point out the headings on each page and discuss why we need them. Explore the glossary and its use.

Discuss and reflect

After reading the book, ask the children: What are killer plants?

How do they attract insects?

Why do they need to do this?

Which is your favourite killer plant and why?

Picture chat

Ask the children to work with a partner and select a picture from *Killer Plants*. Ask them to look carefully at the picture and discuss all of the things they can see. They could write a paragraph to describe the picture. Allow time for them to share their paragraphs with the class.

Design a killer plant

You will need:

- 1. Design a new type of killer plant.
- 2. Think about how the plant would trap its food.
- 3. Draw your design on paper and include labels.
- 4. Share your design with the class.

Memory cards

You will need: cardboard, scissors, pencils, felt pens, coloured pencils

- 1. Make a memory game based on Killer Plants.
- 2. Cut the cardboard into 10×5 cm pieces.
- 3. Make 20 cards.
- 4. On half of the cards, draw a killer plant.
- 5. On the other half, write a fact about each killer plant.
- 6. Place all cards face down on a table.
- 7. With a partner, take turns to pick up two cards and turn them over. If you have a match (of one picture card and one fact/name card), keep the pair and have another turn.
- 8. If you don't have a match, the other person has a turn.
- 9. Keep playing until all the cards have been matched.
- 10. The person with the most pairs wins!

Killer plants

Write about each of these plants. How do they catch their food?

Plant	Name	How it catches its food

Adjectives

Adjectives are words that describe things. Nouns are words that tell us the name of something.

Match an adjective from Column 1 with a noun from Column 2.

Column 1 – Adjectives	Column 2 – Nouns
slippery	smell
tiny	liquid
sweet	plants
killer	hairs
sweet-smelling	sides
steep	leaves
sticky	tentacles
long	nectar

Now write a paragraph about killer plants. Make sure you nclude some adjectives.	