

Fun with Wildflowers

Learning objectives:

To discover flowers that grow wild in Wales.

Learn the names, what they look like and what's amazing about them.

Have lots of fun doing different activities with flowers; from science experiments to potion making



cadwch keep
gymru'n wales
daclus tidy



THE MOONDANCE
FOUNDATION



Practitioner knowledge:

Common wildflowers such as buttercups, daisies and dandelions are easy for children to find, making them ideal for exploration. Their bright colours and familiar shapes make them simple to recognise and provide a great opportunity for conversation.

These plants can be used to introduce basic plant parts, such as petals, leaves and stems. You could also discuss how plants grow and spread seeds.

Wildflowers are vital to insects like bees as they provide nectar early in the season, so make sure to tell the children to leave some unpicked for wildlife. It is important to supervise closely and remind children not to put plants in their mouth, especially as some, like buttercups, are not safe to eat.



Buttercup

Hold the buttercup under your chin to discover whether you like butter. Not scientifically proven but still lots of fun!



Dandelion

The whole dandelion all the way down the root is edible – making an especially healthy and delicious tea and honey.



Daisy

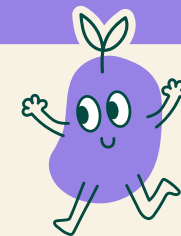
The daisy petals close at night like it's sleeping and opens back up in the daytime.



Dandelion puffball

This began as the dandelion above before turning into a puffball. Puffballs are used to carry wishes – so give it a blow and make a wish!





Engaging experiences with flowers:

Flower collecting

Collecting flowers is just as fun as anything you're going to do with them and is great for fine motor skills! Make sure to collect common wildflowers because there's plenty of them. But remember to leave some for the bees!

Flower stencils

Flower threading can be a lot of fun. Let the children be creative with their cardboard stencil and start threading!

For smaller hands you can also do this through an upside-down strainer.

Nature potion making

Wildflowers make a fantastic potion ingredient.

Use a stick to mix them with water and anything else you can find around you. The more the better! You can also take some of the liquid to make a perfume.



Hammer painting

Hammer painting with wildflowers is very fun.

Find a hard surface place your flowers on the paper and hammer away.

Dandelion paint

Squash your dandelions, mix with warm water, strain the liquid to remove the bits of flower and you will have created yellow paint!

Waterproof puffball

Have a go at dipping the puff ball in water and watch it come back out dry!

Dandelion seeds have tiny hairs that repel water, so they can float and stay dry. This helps them travel on the wind so they can spread their seeds everywhere.



cadwch keep
gymru'n wales
daclus tidy



THE MOONDANCE
FOUNDATION

