

ACTIVITY 8

Magic Trick...

How to Change a Banana into a Carrot!!

Suggested Learning Intentions:

Pupils will:

- Learn to make compost
- Learn about and experience growing their own plants

Connected Learning Opportunities:

KS1&2: Language and Literacy - talking and listening; reading and writing.

KS1&2: The World Around Us - Geography (environmental awareness); Science (decomposition of organic material; life cycle of plant).

Cross-Curricular Skills

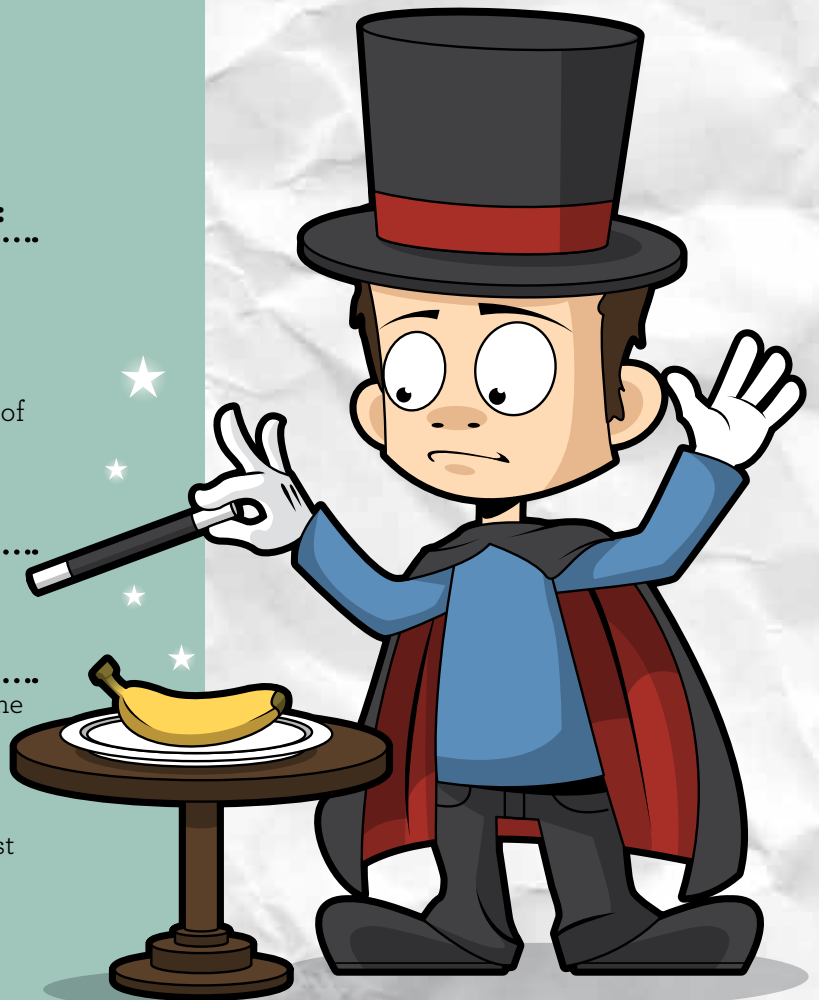
Communication.

Eco-Schools

This is a great activity if your focus topic on the Eco-School programme relates to improving school grounds, waste and healthy living. The pupils can learn to make their own compost from food waste and then also use the compost to help with growing plants and vegetables in the school grounds.



Recycle Activity



Class activity:

Show pupils a banana and a carrot. Ask if they have any ideas how to change the banana into a carrot. Introduce a sample of compost, allowing pupils to touch it. Explain the process of how the organic matter, like the banana skin, breaks down to make compost. Have some seed trays filled with compost and ask the pupils to plant some carrot seeds.

Explain the care needed to allow the seeds to grow, and ask the pupils to draw up a rota to look after the seedlings. When the carrots have grown arrange to have them cooked or help pupils prepare them as a salad or carrot cake to be enjoyed by the class.

Reinforce the message that as an alternative to sending organic waste material to the landfill site, it could be used in composting, which in turn helps the natural environment.

Group activity:

The largest single portion of household rubbish is organic material, such as vegetable peelings, fruit skin, bread, grass cuttings etc, which naturally breaks down and returns nutrients to the soil.

Key Stage 1:

With this information, the pupils can work together in groups to note the household rubbish that they think naturally breaks down or rots.

Key Stage 2:

With this information, the pupils can work together in small groups to compile a list of household rubbish that naturally decomposes.

For pupils who find the above suggestions difficult:

Pupils and teacher/classroom assistant can work together to record the household rubbish that they think naturally breaks down or rots using practical examples. This should be read aloud to the group so that everyone can agree.

Finally:

Have the groups compare and complete their list and complete their K-W-L and first begun on Activity 1