

Activity Idea

Activity	Flower Power
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Possibilities for maths learning	☐ Counting	☐ Composition	☐ Cardinality
	☐ Subitise	☒ Comparison	☒ Measure
	☐ Shape	☐ Pattern	☐ Spatial awareness

Resources	➤ Flowers (real or artificial – enough for 2 flowers per child) ➤ A vase to hold the flowers
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Activity Outline	Cut the stems of the flowers so that they are all different heights and arrange these in a vase. Choose a tall flower and a short flower to use as you explain the concepts of tall and short to the children. Explain that short and tall are words used to describe height. As you show the children the tall flower, you might say: <i>"This flower is tall."</i> As you show the children the short flower, you might say: <i>"This flower is short."</i> Place the two flowers side by side in front of the children. As you point to the tall flower and then to the short flower, say: <i>"This flower is taller than this flower."</i> As you point to the short flower and then to the tall flower, say: <i>"This flower is shorter than this flower."</i> Using the same two flowers, ask children: <i>"Which flower is taller?"</i> <i>"Which flower is shorter?"</i> Acknowledge their responses by echoing and pointing out which flower is taller and which flower is shorter. Ask each child to choose two flowers. Allow the children to handle and explore their two flowers for a few minutes. Go around the group and ask each child: <i>"Which of your flowers is taller?"</i> and <i>"Which of your flowers is shorter?"</i> Ask the children to compare their flowers with their friends' flowers to determine who has the tallest flower and who has the shortest flower.
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Extension Opportunities	✓ Give each child three or four flowers of at least three different heights. Ask them to put the flowers in order from tallest to shortest, using comparative measurement vocabulary (e.g. tall, taller, tallest or short, shorter, shortest). ✓ Remove the petals from several different types of flowers (real or artificial). Compare the lengths of the two petals and determine which petal is longer and which petal is shorter.
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	✓ Point out various objects in the room and describe their height.
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