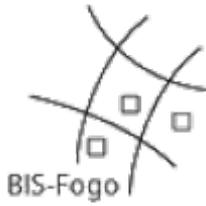


Activity 01: Basics research

Blue flowers and scientific observation



Objective: The students will be introduced to scientific methods and terms: observation, conduction of experiments and formulation of well-founded hypothesis.

Learning outcomes: The students will be able to conduct experiments according to instructions and to formulate well-founded presumptions.

Previous knowledge: No previous knowledge required

Duration: 60 min

Materials / Conditions: A white flower, water and ink.

Methods / Techniques: Observation, description, creative thinking, team- or group-work

Learning subject: Biodiversity / Module 3: collection, processing and analysis of environmental data
/ Level: First contact

Introduction:

Every child knows plants need water in order to survive. They wither and die off after some time without water. But does the water we give our flowers really enter the plant and how much is it distributed? How do scientists handle and approach such questions?

Instruction:

1. What happens, when you place a white flower into a glass of water and ink? Formulate your presumption in a sentence.

2. Put some ink into a glass of water and place a white flower into it. Wait a few minutes. (team- or group-work possible)

3. Describe your observations.

4. Do you have an explanation for your observations?

Resources:

none

Possible results / Results:

1. The plant changes colour to blue, because the ink has entered the flower.

3. The petals begin to change to blue; also colour changes can be observed at the stem and leaves.

4. "The flower sucks water to the top"; the flowers change colour, because of the mix of water and ink in them"; the stem acts as a straw"

Related activities:

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