

Exploring Plant Potting, Freshwater Habitat Ecology and Conservation

Duration: 2 hours 

Learning objectives:

- Students will learn the process of potting on plants and understand why it's necessary.
- Students will gain an understanding of wetland ecology and the importance of wetland conservation.

Equipment provided:



Wetland plant seeds
and cuttings



Gloves



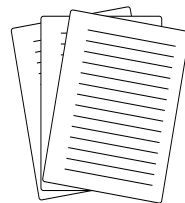
Pots for
planting



Compost



Watering cans



Activity sheets

Part 1: Introduction (15 minutes)

1. Welcome and Introduction

- GroWet project officer to greet the students and provide a brief overview of the lesson.

2. Icebreaker Activity

- Discuss what factors might affect plant growth e.g. sunlight/shade, clean water/polluted water, cold temperature/hot temperature.

Part 2: Potting Up Plug Plants (35 minutes)

3. Discussion on Plant Potting

- Introduce the concept of potting up plants and explain the proper potting techniques for plant growth (e.g. the benefits of giving plants more space for roots to grow).
- Health and safety procedures.

4. Demonstration of Potting Up

- Demonstrate the steps of potting up plants.
- Explain how to carefully remove seedlings from seed trays, prepare pots, and transplant them.

5. Hands-on Activity: Potting Up

- Provide plug plants, cuttings, pots, and potting soil for each student or small group.
- Guide students through the process of potting up their own plants.

10 minute tidy up

60
minutes

Part 3: Introduction to Freshwater Habitat Ecology & Conservation (35 minutes)

6. Introduction to Freshwater Habitat Ecology

- Explain the characteristics of wetland ecosystems and their importance in the broader environment.
- Introduce key plant and animal species that are typical in wetland habitats.

7. Interactive Activity: Water Pollution Sources

- Provide an activity sheet on water pollution.
- Encourage students to identify and discuss the different types of water pollution that affect wetland habitats.

8. Discussion on Freshwater Habitat Conservation

- Discuss the significance of wetland conservation for biodiversity, water quality, and flood control.
- Explain the threats that wetlands face, including habitat loss and pollution.
- Talk about what we can do individually to help conserve our local wetlands.

Part 4: Conclusion and Reflection (10 minutes)

9. Review and Discussion

- Lead a discussion about what students learned during the lesson.
- Ask the questions: Why is it important to plant native plants in wetland habitats? What are some key features of a wetland ecosystem? What can we do to help conserve wetlands?

60

minutes

10 minute tidy up