

## **Tiered Assignment**

**Grade Level:** 4

**Subject:** Science

**Topic:** Plant Life

### **Learning Goal:**

Students will explain the stages of a plant's life cycle and describe what plants need to grow.

### **Overview**

All students are working toward the same goal: understanding how a plant grows. However, the tasks are adjusted to match each student's readiness level, language ability, and level of independence.

### **Tier 1 – Foundational (for beginning learners or those needing more support)**

**Task:** Cut and paste images of the plant life cycle stages in the correct order using a template.

- Use a picture word bank (seed, sprout, flower, sun, water).
- Teacher or peer helps read instructions aloud.
- Students complete a matching worksheet with visuals and labels.
- Optional oral explanation with sentence starters such as, "The seed needs \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to grow."

### **Tier 2 – Developing (grade-level expectations)**

**Task:** Write 3-5 sentences describing each stage of the plant life cycle, using vocabulary from a word bank.

- Students include simple drawings or diagrams.

- Teacher provides guiding questions:  
“What happens after the seed is planted?”  
“What does the plant need during this stage?”

### **Tier 3 – Extending (for students ready for more of a challenge)**

**Task:** Create a mini-book or digital slideshow about a plant of your choice.

- Include all life cycle stages and describe the function of each part.
- Research an unusual plant (e.g., cactus, pitcher plant) and compare its growth to that of a more common plant (e.g., bean, sunflower).
- Include labelled diagrams and optional glossary of terms.

#### **Supports Across All Tiers**

- Word banks and visuals
- Sentence frames
- Access to anchor charts or a shared classroom diagram
- Option to present learning orally, in writing, or with visuals

#### **Why It Works**

Every student works toward the same learning goal, but the path is flexible. Students are supported at their level without being held back or overwhelmed.