Children learn to observe and record wild plant growth and development.

Soil's Magic 2



Keywords **observation • keeping records • crafts and creativity • outdoors • Maths**

1. Watching the magic unfold
Over the first and second terms, your wild plants will keep changing, growing, flowering, seeding, and eventually withering. Take the children regularly to the Soil Magic spot to witness these changes. Always nurture that sense of wonder at how life appeared from what seemed like “just soil.”

2. From wonder to science skills
Once the children grasp how special soil is, begin introducing simple science skills:

- Theorising – thinking and sharing ideas.
- Observing – looking closely at details.
- Recording – drawing or writing what they notice.

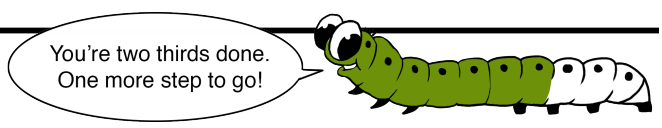
Ask:

“How do you think the plants grew?”

Guide them toward the idea that the soil held “sleeping” seeds, and that conditions like rain and sunlight “woke them up.” Connect this with weather and seasonal changes, helping children see how people, plants, and nature are all connected.

3. Observing and recording growth
Encourage children to capture the story of their wild plants in creative ways:

- Create Symbols/Drawings: Children design a simple symbol for wild plants, draw or cut them out, and add them to a big “Soil Magic” chart or diary.
- Focus on Shapes: Look closely at the leaves. Children can recreate them using simple shapes (triangles, circles, squares) and match these to the plants they observe.
- Weather Tracking: Make a weather frieze (a visual timeline) for the week. Children stick on sun, rain, wind, or cloud symbols each day. Take weekly photos of the Soil Magic boxes and add them to the timeline.
- Miniature Model: Build a small classroom version of the wild plants using a container for “soil” and matchsticks or small objects to represent the plants. Each colour/object can stand for a different plant.



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Send photos of

- ☐ Children counting and observing the plants
- ☐ The different ways children keep their records

Resources & Equipment Needed

- Soil and boxes from “Soil Magic”;
- Large card for Soil Magic chart;
- Shape templates (square, triangle, circle, etc.);
- Coloured pens/pencils;
- Scissors;
- Glue, Blu-Tack.

