



Children celebrate the life cycle of plants.



Wheel of Life 2



Keywords school grounds • crafts • nature observation

- 1 This activity should be started in autumn. Till the soil in your wild flowers patch until you have a clear patch of soil. Explain that you are preparing the right conditions for the wild plant seeds to grow. Remind them of the Nature's Magic activity the children did in Year 1 and how plants sprouted from bare soil.
- 2 Prepare your Wheel of Life drawings. If you like, you may use the template in the **Resource File**. Decide how many you want to have for your class. You may put Wheels of Life in different soil patches around the school.
- 3 Continue to observe your plants at regular intervals, making sure the dial is pointing to the right part of the cycle. Observe, in particular, how plants respond to weather and seasonal triggers in their cycle changes. Make the most out of the changes by linking to other subjects, such as seasons and calendars. Let children appreciate how long each stage lasts. Compare stages and see which is the longest/shortest, etc.
- 4 Make sure you go through all the cycle. To many people, the stage where flowers dry is an ugly stage when the plant is to be pulled up. But for the plant this is actually the whole point of flowering and an extremely important stage for life, because seeds are forming! These seeds will not only be the plants of next year, but they also feed many insects (ants, beetles, grasshoppers) and birds, who eat this rich source of food. You could collect seeds, label them and keep them in paper bags for next year. Remember not to take all the seeds, always leave some for nature!

Use the Dinja Waħda Notice Board and tell the school about what you're doing.

Send photos of

- ☐ children making their wheel of life ☐ the wheels of life at all stages
- ☐ fixing the wheels in place

