


Lesson-1

Let us go to the Garden



Last Sunday Renu madam took the children to a garden near the school. The garden was full of large variety of plants, trees and flowers. Madam explained very beautifully about the plants and trees of the garden to the children.



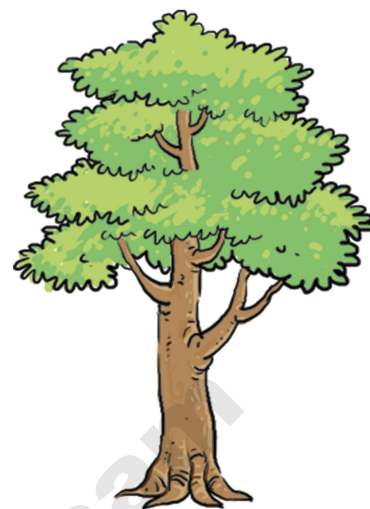
 Renu madam –Look at the plants and trees of this garden. Some are tall, some are very short and some are delicate. All of these are known as plants.

Pranab- Which tree is this?

Renu madam- This is a Neem tree. Like the neem tree, other trees like mango, jackfruit, jamun, peepul tree are big and tall. The trunk of these trees are large, and the trees are covered with branches and leaves.

Pranab- (After touching the trunk of the tree). This tree is very hard.

Renu madam—“Yes, the trunk of these trees are large and hard. These kind of plants are known as ‘trees’. We get wood from these trees. Different objects that we use at home like- chairs, tables, beds, doors, windows etc are made from wood. Trees like Sal, Bonsom, Hollong, Titasopa etc. are valuable trees of Assam. **Hollong is the state tree of Assam.**



Jenifer—“Oh! I can recognise these flower plants. The garden is filled with rose, marigold, hibiscus, jasmine plants.



Renu madam- These plants are short and bushy compared to trees. The trunk of these plants are not large like the trees. These plants are known as ‘**Gulma**’ or Shrubs.

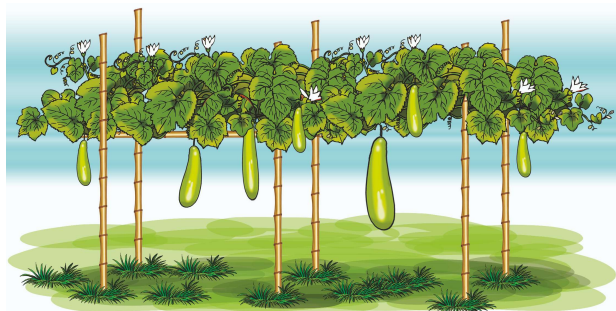
Arati- What is the name of this plant which is climbing up?

Renu madam- This is the Aparajita (Asian Pigeonwings) plant and the plants nearby are bottle gourd, ridge gourd, sponge gourd and white gourd. Like the Aparajita plant the bottle gourd, bean, cucumber plants require bamboo platforms to grow for which such bamboo platforms are built for these plants.

Think and say why do these plants require bamboo platforms? (All the children start thinking)

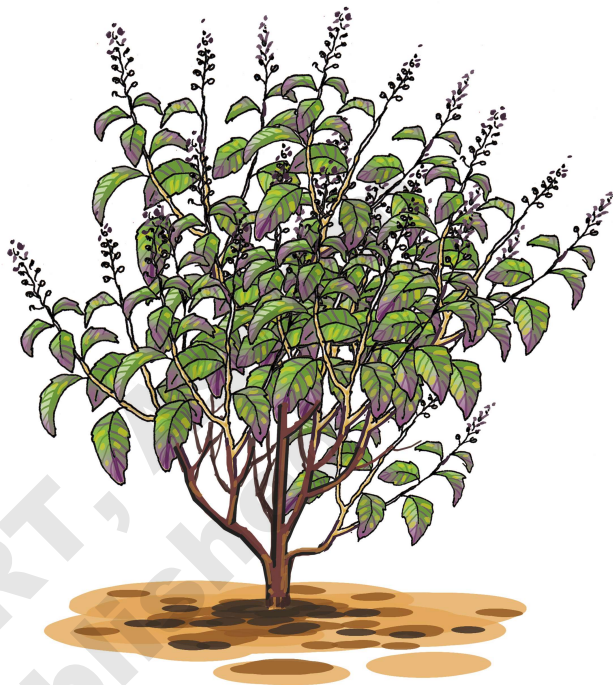
Pranab- Madam, the stem of these plants are soft. They are not like the stems of trees and shrubs (gulma)

Renu madam—Yes, you are right. The stems of these plants are soft and delicate. They can creep only with the help of other plants. Bamboo platforms are built for these plants to help them creep upwards and grow. Plants like betel leaf, black pepper, bhedailata etc. also creep on other trees. On the other hand pumpkin, watermelon etc. creeps on the ground. All these **creeping plants** are called ‘**Creepers**’.



Sajida- Madam, the grass on which we are standing belongs to which variety of plants?

Renu madam- (smiling) These are called 'Herbs'. We grow different kinds of green leafy vegetables at home. The green leafy vegetables like mustard, spinach, coriander, mint are small and their stems are soft. Grass, bermuda grass, paddy etc are kind of herbs. These plants are small and their stems are soft. The stem of some herbal plants are hollow. For example- bamboo tree. Although bamboo trees are tall and woody they belong to the family of grass. Bamboo is the tallest grass.



These plants and trees are very essential for us. We get flowers, fruits, crops, firewood, materials for building houses. The cotton clothes that we wear are made from cotton fiber. We have different kinds of medicinal plants around us. These are neem, aloe vera, tulsi, curry leaf tree, ginger etc. Neem and aloe vera are used for skin disease; tulsi and ginger juice for cough and cold, curry leaves are used for curing stomach problem.

Moreover, trees and plants purify the air that we breathe. Trees give us shade. Places which have abundant trees and plants remain very cool. We should not cut trees.

We should plant saplings. In order to protect these saplings from cows and goats we should give proper bamboo fencing on all sides. The saplings should be watered timely. Excessive growth of grass, weeds etc should be prevented to help the saplings to grow. I hope you now understand how important trees are for us.

Now let us go home

-What did you understand from the above discussion?

Only if trees survive will man survive

Let's know –

- Those plants which are short with green, delicate and tender stems, plants which are hollow and have nodes such as grass and weed are called **herbs**.
- Plants whose stems are weak and which creep and grow with the support of other plants and trees, on the soil or the roof of houses are called **creepers**.
- Those plants which are not tall and long but are bushy having innumerable numbers of branches are called **shrubs**.
- Those plants which are tall having innumerable branches are known as **trees**.

Discuss in group and say –

- What are the things that animals get from plants and what are the advantages that we get from plants?

Let's do and see—

- Observe the plants and trees that you see in your school compound or in the garden of your house. What did you see? Are all the trees same? Classify the plants that you have seen in the chart provided below.

Tall and strong trunk (Tree)	Short and bushy plants (Shrubs)	Plants that climb (Creeper)	Very short and soft stem (Herb)

Plants suck water through its roots. The roots hold the soil firmly and help the plants to stand erect. As a result there is no depletion of soil. The roots of the trees prevent erosion and help in preserving the soil.



- Uproot a bunch of grass and observe carefully. What do you see? What is the part which remains underground known as?
- Uproot a big tree and see. Can you? If not why?

The shape and size of the leaves of different trees, their colour and the edges are all different



- Can you recognise the leaves in the above pictures? Write down for what purpose these leaves are used. (Take help of your teachers)

Cooked and eaten as green vegetable

.....

Used as a spice

.....

Used for preparing tea

.....

Used as Medicine

.....

Used for preparing oil

.....

Used for making hand fans

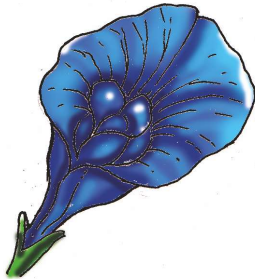
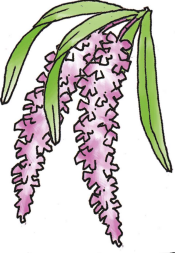
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- Collect some fallen leaves from your school compound and from your garden. Observe the leaves carefully. Do they look the same. Identify the shape, size and colour of the leaves and fill up the table.

Name of the leaf	Big/Small	Round/Long/Triangular	Colour	Edge of the leaves

- Collect the leaves that have fallen from the trees and make an album with those collected leaves.
- **Let us trace a leaf-**
- Take a leaf, colour pencil and a sheet of white paper.
 - Place the leaf on the ground or a table. Take care that the surface showing the ribs of the leaf faces upward.
 - Keep the sheet of white paper on the leaf.
 - Now gently rub the piece of paper with the colour pencil. See that the leaf or the paper is not displaced from its positions.
 - Now observe the imprint of the leaf and say what do you see.
- Make different kinds of bird and animal patterns with the help of dry leaves.





We all love flowers. Every where around us we see flowers which bloom with different colours; Some flowers are with smell and some are without any smell. Rose, jasmine, Indian rose chestnut (Nahor), marigold, etc. are flowers with smell. On the other hand hibiscus, periwinkle, butterfly pea/aparajita etc. are flowers that do not smell. The butterfly, black bee, honey bee, honey-sucker bird etc. go from flowers to flower and suck nectar. The honey bee collects nectar from the flowers and make a bee hive.



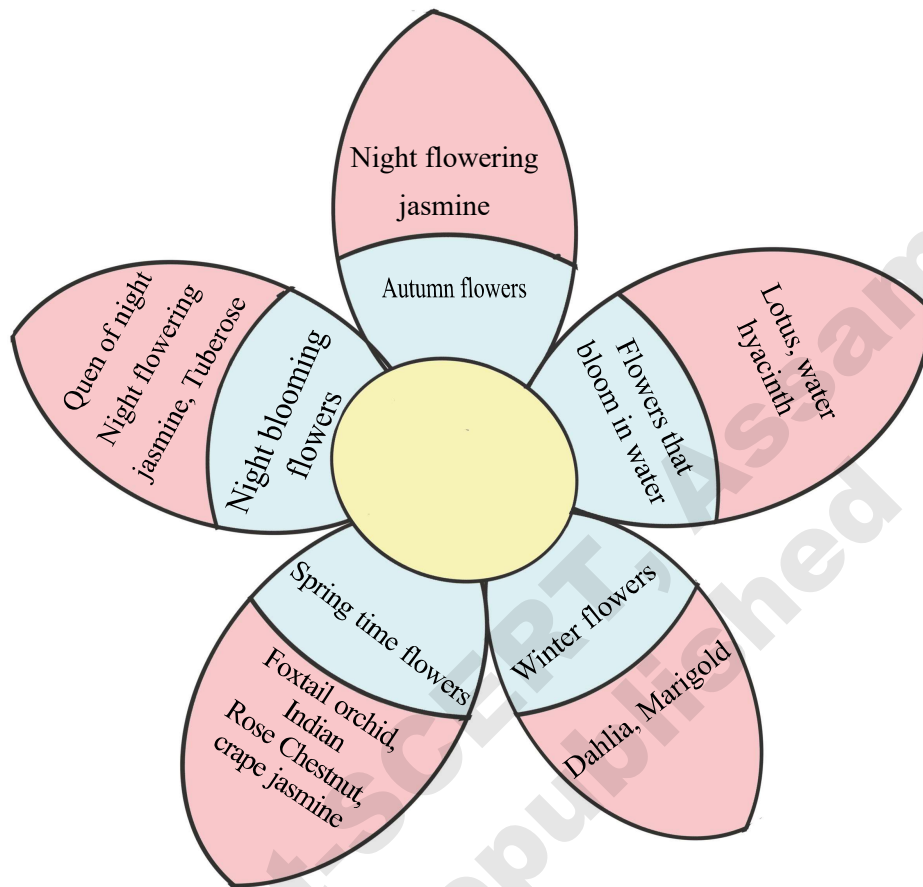
- Can you recognise the flowers given in the picture? What varieties of flowers are there in your school campus and in the backyard of your home? With the help of your teachers and parents make a chart showing the list of flowers that smell and the list of flowers that has no smell at all.



Lotus is the National Flower of our country

- Pick up some fallen flowers. Write the names of the flowers. Let the flowers dry up and then make an album with the flowers.

Different varieties of flowers bloom in different seasons. Some flowers bloom throughout the year. Some flowers bloom only at night. Let us learn about these flowers.



- We use flowers for various purpose. Write down the purpose for which the following flowers are used.
- Pumpkin flowers, night flowering jasmine (Sewali), marigold, dahlia, tuberose, sunflower.

Purpose

Flower name

Eaten as food
Preparing medicine
Making oil
Making colour
Making garlands

Exercise

(1) Answer the following

- (a) Name four trees.
- (b) Name two valuable wood found in Assam.
- (c) Name two types of creepers.
- (d) Name two flowers that do not have smell.
- (e) Name three flowers that have smell.

(2) What is the reason for making bamboo platform for plants such as bottle gourd and ridge gourd?

(3) Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Plants suck water through.....
- (b) Bees collect nectar from the flowers and make.....
- (c).....flower is known as the National Flower of our country.
- (d) Fox tail orchid blooms in the.....season.
- (e) Palm leaves are used to make.....

(4) Choose the correct answer by giving tick '✓' mark.

- (a) Bamboo is a kind of shrub/tree/herb.
- (b) Shrub kind of plants are smaller than the trees/bigger than the trees.
- (c) The trunk of trees are hard/soft.
- (d) The leaves of tal palm/mango/neem trees are used to make hand fan.

(5) Write the difference- between trees and shrubs

(6) Join the dots and colour the pictures. What do you get by joining the dots.

