

Be a Plant Doctor

Environment & Outdoors



DISCOVER



QUICK



What You Will Discover

Did you know that plants can get sick, just like people? Find out how you can help plants stay healthy!

The Adventure

As a small group, find a plant to be your “patient,” whether it’s a plant someone has brought from home, or one that is growing near your meeting place. Find out what kind of plant it is and look for any problems it might have. Look at its colour, size and leaf shape. Does anything look wrong, like bites out of its leaves, miscolouring or dead areas? What could you do to help the plant?



It starts with Scouts.

Plan

- What resources will you use to find out what plant you're looking at?
- Where can you find out more about what might be wrong with your plant?
- How will you know what you can do to help your plant?

Do

#ScoutsDoStuff: Share a picture of your plant with your diagnosis. After you've treated your plant, give it time to heal, and then share a before-and-after picture of how your plant looks now.

Review

- What (if anything) was wrong with your plant?
- How did you treat your plant? How did you know what to do?
- What can you apply of what you learned to plants that you might have at home?
- Why are plants so important? What role do they play in our world?

Safety Note

- How can you recognize and stay safe when encountering **hazardous plants**?
- How can you stay safe when handling any chemicals (pesticides or fertilizers) that might be dangerous?

Try this

Keep it Simple

Sometimes, all a plant needs to grow is a bit more space! Help your friends or family to re-pot plants, whether that means moving them into a bigger plot, or into a garden outside. Measure your plant before you move it and then a few weeks later to see how much it's grown!

Take it Further

Go for a walk in your community or along a local hiking trail. Pay attention to the health of the trees and plants nearby. Can you spot any health problems? What can you do to help them thrive? Partner with a local conservation authority or trail group and help them to keep their trees healthy throughout a season!

