

# Dandelion

## Sensory Play Activity



### You Will Need:

Water

Large, shallow tray or container

Dandelion flower and seed heads, leaves and grass

Utensils, such as spoons, scoops, ladle, whisk, pestle and mortar or a colander

Child-safe magnifying glasses

Guttering and tubing

Cups, bowls

**Optional:** yellow food colouring

### Method:

1. Pick a selection of dandelion flowers, seed heads and leaves and cut some blades of grass.
2. Pour some water into your large shallow tray and add your natural items. You may wish to colour the water yellow by adding a few drops of yellow food colouring.
3. Surround the tray with a variety of spoons, a ladle, a whisk, colander or sieve and cups or bowls for children to use.

### Sensory Play Ideas:

- Investigate dandelions by pulling them apart. Look closely at the dandelions using magnifying glasses. Comment on what you can see and name the different parts.
- Encourage children to rub dandelions in their hands and explore their scent.
- Blow dandelion seeds into the water and watch them land on the surface. Do they float or sink? What happens to a dandelion seed head if you push it under water and pull it back out again?
- Using guttering or tubing, explore how the dandelions move across the water.
- Use the ladle, spoon or scoop to transfer the dandelions from the tray to the bowls.
- Mix the dandelions with a little water. Grind and mash the dandelions using a pestle and mortar to create dandelion soup. What do they notice as they mix and mash the flowers?

### Key Vocabulary:

Dandelion, stem, petal, yellow, stir, scoop.



Disclaimer: This resource is provided for informational and educational purposes only. As this resource refers to sensory activities, sometimes including food items/ingredients, you must ensure that an adequate risk assessment is carried out prior to using this resource. This resource is not taste-safe. You must contact a suitably qualified professional if you are unsure. Twinkl is not responsible for the health and safety of your group or environment. Please be aware that learners should be supervised at all times due to potential hazards with handling and exploring sensory objects, particularly young or vulnerable learners. Sensory activities can engage learners in their play and learning, but supervising adults should check for allergens and assess any potential risks before the activity and only proceed if it is safe to do so, for example, even the shallowest amount of water can be extremely dangerous. Learners should wash their hands before and after these activities.