



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading “Fly Traps! Plants That Bite Back” by Martin Jenkins. This nonfiction selection tells about several different kinds of carnivorous plants. It tells how Venus fly traps and other plants trap and eat insects. You and your child might enjoy trying one of these activities designed to build language skills.

Read About Predatory Plans

Visit the library with your child and ask a librarian for help finding children’s books on carnivorous plants. Read the books together and talk about how these plants are surprising. Invite your child to choose a favorite carnivorous plant and explain why he or she likes that one the best.

VOCABULARY

Act Out Words

Your child has learned the vocabulary words below while reading “Fly Traps! Plants That Bite Back”:

accidentally	dissolve
boggiest	fertilizer
carnivorous	victim
chemicals	

Discuss the words’ meanings. Then play a game of charades. Write the words on paper scraps and mix them up. Players can take turns drawing a word and miming its meaning for others to guess.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

Check the Labels

Carnivorous plants eat insects to get minerals they need but can’t get from the soil. Humans get minerals, vitamins, calcium, iron, and other substances from the foods we eat. With your child, read the labels of some of the foods in your cupboard. Make a chart showing each of these foods. List the vitamins and other substances each contains, and the percentage of the recommended daily allowance of each that one serving of the food provides. You might then add to the chart some foods that do not come in packages, such as meat, fresh fruit, and fresh vegetables, and do research with your child to find out what minerals, vitamins, or other substances each of these foods contain.

