UNIT 1

Looking after Trees and Flowers

Activity 1.a - Reading / Writing

(C/L 5.5 – Extracts the general idea of a text)

Navod visits Sharanya who has a beautiful garden. Navod wants to know Sharanya’s secret of keeping his garden so neat and beautiful.

Fill in the blanks and complete the dialogue. Use the clues given in the next page.

Sharanya: - Hello Navod! Come and take a seat. Let’s drink some “Kolakenda” and go to the garden.
Navod: - Thank you Sharanya. You have a well kept garden.
Sharanya: - I always get advice from the Agricultural Instructor in our area.
Navod: - Really!
Sharanya: - Yes, he visits my garden very often. He gave me various kinds of vegetable seeds. I have planted them in separate beds.
Navod: - They are of lovely colours.
Sharanya: - No, No, I bought all these rose plants at a floral exhibition two years ago.
Navod: - They are full of flowers.
Sharanya: - I look after them very carefully. My mother and brother help me. I weed and manure all the plants at the correct time. I also use pesticides.
Navod: -
Sharanya: - Oh! Yes, I sell the flowers to the florists in the town, but use most of the vegetables for our home consumption.
Navod: -
Sharanya: - I share them with the neighbours, because they give me cow dung, compost manure and help me in watering the garden.
Clues

- Does he visit your garden?
- What do you do with the extra vegetables?
- How do you manage to keep this so neatly?
- Did he give you all these flower plants too?
- How do you look after them?
- Do you sell the flowers and the vegetables?

**Activity 1.b Reading / Writing**

(C/L 5.4 - Transfers information into other forms)

Read this letter of request. Imagine that you are the Agricultural Officer. Write a reply to confirm your participation.

The Secretary,
Science Society,
Panhinda Boys’ College,
Padukka.
23rd July.

The Agricultural Officer,
Divisional Secretariat Office,
Padukka.

Dear sir,

**Invitation for a Lecture**

The science society of Panhinda Boys’ college has organized a home gardening competition. We would be much obliged if you could kindly deliver a lecture to advise us on the topics given below to the participants.

1. How to make use of kitchen waste
2. When to use manure
3. How to make environmental friendly pesticide

The scheduled date and the time is the 25th of August at 10.30 a.m. We would be thankful to you if you could confirm your participation.

Thank you.
Yours truly,
Saranga Ekanayaka
(The secretary)
**Activity 1.c - Writing**

(C/L 7.7 – Uses vocabulary items in writing)

Add suitable prefixes or suffixes to change the meanings of the following words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefixes</th>
<th>Suffixes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Un-not</td>
<td>Ful-positive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re-again</td>
<td>less-negative</td>
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<tr>
<td>arrange</td>
<td>use</td>
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<tr>
<td>pleasant</td>
<td>care</td>
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<td>introduce</td>
<td>colour</td>
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<td>seen</td>
<td>fruit</td>
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<td>use</td>
<td>help</td>
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<tr>
<td>known</td>
<td>root</td>
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<td>wanted</td>
<td>hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>build</td>
<td>flower</td>
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<tr>
<td>fresh</td>
<td>odour</td>
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<tr>
<td>name</td>
<td>leaf</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Activity 1.d – Reading / Writing

(C/L 5.5 – Extracts the general idea of a text)
The sentences given below tell you how to grow flowers. They are not in the correct order. Read these sentences and number them according to the correct order.

a) Prepare the flower bed
b) Till the soil
c) Select a suitable place
d) Remove weeds in the bed
e) See whether there are worms or insects in the buds
f) Plant the seeds
g) Now you can pick flowers
h) After a few days check whether they give out leaves
i) If there are worms or insects in the buds, spray some insecticide.
j) Add manure for the plants to grow well

Activity 1.e – Reading / Writing

(C/L 4.5 - Uses the contextual visual clues to derive the meaning of words)
Solve the crossword puzzle

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>R</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4
Across

1. These are used to kill weeds.
4. Mostly found in water and land, carrier of diseases such as plague.
6. Adjective formed from the word ‘medicine’.
10. This is one of the valuable trees introduced by the British to Sri Lanka.

Down

2. Citrus fruits like lime contain this acid.
3. A word similar in meaning to ‘eatable’.
5. A place where flowers or vegetables are grown.
7. This is the national tree of Sri Lanka.
8. You must always take …………of trees and flowers.
9. Trees make this pure by absorbing carbon dioxide.

Activity 1.f - Reading / Writing

(C/L 7.9 – Uses English creatively in written communication)

Read the text on “An Environmentalist” and write a short account on a person in your area, who is engaged in gardening/ paddy cultivation/ planting tea, rubber or coconut.

1. Name of the person
2. Description of the place he/she lives
3. The plantation he/she is dealing with
4. The steps he/she has taken to look after his / her garden / cultivation.
5. what he/she has gained through his/her dedication to work
6. His contribution to society

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Activity 1.g - Reading / Writing - Group work

(C/L 5.2 – Extracts specific information from a text)
Find answers for these questions from unit 1.

1. What factors affect the growth of plants/flowers?

2. What helps to give colour to leaves/flowers?

3. What are the state institutions that help people to grow plants/flowers in your area?

4. What kinds of trees are not allowed to be cut without permission?

5. Which state department can take action against destruction of forests?

6. Find the botanical names for the following: coconut, tamarind, mango, arecanut, plantain, gotukola, rubber, lotus.

Activity 1.h - Reading / Writing

(C/L 7.9 – Produces imaginative and interesting creative writing)

Proverbs and sayings on trees and flowers

“A tree is a tree - how many more do you need to look at”
- Ronald Raygon

“Trees are the earth’s endless effort to speak to the listening heaven”
- Rabindranath Tagore
“Plant trees. They give us the most crucial elements for our survival: oxygen and books”
- Whitney Brown

“If a tree dies, plant another in its place”
- Linnaeus

“Around a flowering tree one finds many insects”
- Papua New Guinea

“Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps a singing bird will come”
- Chinese Proverb

“A tree falls the way it leans”
- A line from a Bulgarian poem

Read the proverbs and sayings again. Select one of them and write a short paragraph to elaborate its meaning.
Activity 1.i - Writing

(C/L 1.3 - Pronounces English words properly)
Draw a mango tree in your writing book and name the following parts.

1 Roots:- 2 Trunk:- 3 Branches:- 4 Buds:-
Tap root, Bark Twigs, Leaves, Tender leaves
Secondary roots

Activity 1.j - Writing

(C/L 5.2 – Extracts specific information from a text)
Complete the grid by writing the names of trees which have the following uses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses</th>
<th>Names of trees/plants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grown for religious social significance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grown for shade</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grown to produce perfumes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grown to protect water resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grown as manure for other plants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth’s sweet flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Alfred Joyce Kilmer (1886–1918)

1. According to the poet which is lovelier “a poem” or a tree?

2. Where does a tree look at all day?

3. What are the “arms” that are lifted to pray?

4. What does a tree wear in her hair in summer?

5. How does the poet describe himself to be?

6. Find the adjectives in the poem and write them with the nouns they modify.

   i ..........................................................
   ii ..........................................................
   iii ..........................................................
   iv ..........................................................
   v ..........................................................

7. ‘A mother feeds her infant and provides nourishment’. Explain line three and four in terms of the above statement.
**Activity 1.1 - Reading / Writing**

(C/L 7.9 – Produces imaginative and interesting creative writing)

Write a paragraph about a useful tree.

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**Activity 1.m - Vocabulary**

(C.L 4.6 – Finds synonyms for the given English words)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atmosphere</td>
<td>crawler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creeper</td>
<td>bush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweet</td>
<td>skin</td>
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<td>Bark</td>
<td>air</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>blossom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground</td>
<td>sugary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shrub</td>
<td>plant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beautiful</td>
<td>attractive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultivate</td>
<td>base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloom</td>
<td>seed</td>
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