

BEFORE THE UNIT BEGINS SECTION

Welcome to **Plant Traits: Inherited and Acquired**. We have prepared several documents to help you organize this two-week unit and encourage you to read over them before you begin teaching the unit. **The documents below can be found in the "Supporting Files" section** (on the righthand side of this webpage).

- The “**Lessons at a Glance**” document provides a snapshot of the materials you will need to prepare for each day. The full instructions for setup are in each day’s lessons. We highly recommend that you **read over each day’s lesson ahead of time**.
- The **Science Language** section contains **science language picture cards** and a list of each day’s science language (including a complete alphabetical list). We encourage educators to **use new science language in context** as it is introduced in each day’s lesson. **The teacher will need to print color copies of the picture cards before Day 1 so that they are ready for introduction with each lesson.** The picture cards are also suitable for building reference-word walls to meet all learners’ needs.
- The “**Ecosystem Resources**” spreadsheet lists suggested text and media resources for the inquiry children will conduct. This spreadsheet is available in the “**Before the Unit Begins**” section.

NOTES:

- Each science investigation contains **Background Information for the Teacher**. This is provided for the teacher’s **reference only** and is not intended to be taught as part of the lesson, as some of the information may be above the grade level of your learners.
- Throughout the unit, **children will work in scientific teams** and assume scientific roles (with specific duties) within these teams. Suggestions for how to create teams are included in the Day 1 lesson.
- **Any additional supporting materials (including anchor charts and printable or downloadable files) referenced in a lesson can be found in the “Supporting Files” section for that day’s lesson.**