Andrea Haltiner  
Life Sciences  
Grade: 2  
Plant Parts

**Objective/Purpose:** This is a wonderful lesson that uses a creative way to introduce the five parts of a plant. Its main objective is to give students a visual of each plant part while you discuss the role of roots, stems, leaves, fruit, and flowers. 

QCC’s: 4, 10, and 12

**Materials/Time Required:**

1. 1 head of lettuce  
2. 3 tomatoes  
3. 1 bag of broccoli  
4. 3 carrots  
5. 1 bundle of asparagus  
6. Mixing bowl  
7. Salad dressing  
8. Forks, plates, and napkins  
9. 1 class period

**Background Information:**

I found this idea on the internet and thought it was a great way to introduce plants. I used this lesson the very first day I taught, and the kids loved it. It incorporates different learning styles and is able to keep the children’s attention. Before class, I drew a picture of a plant on the chalkboard with lines pointing to each part. At the beginning of my lesson, I let the students get out of their desks and sit on the carpet with me. We discussed the importance of each plant part (roots, stem, flower, leaves, and fruit). For example, we talked about leaves and photosynthesis. Throughout the discussion volunteers labeled the correct plant part on the board. Second graders are eager to help, so this was a nice way to get them involved. After learning the location and function of each plant part, we were able to move on to the exciting part of the lesson.

**Preparation:**

Before class, wash and chop the lettuce, broccoli, tomatoes, carrots, and asparagus. Then put them each in a separate zip lock bag. Before you begin the lesson, have the children wash their hands also.
Safety Issues:

Make sure you chop up everything before you get to class, so you do not have to bring a knife into the elementary school. Also, you might want to make sure the students are not allergic to the ingredients.

Activity Outline/Teacher Procedures:

As the teacher, you will be in charge of making the “plant parts” salad. I led the lesson by having the children name a type of leaf that we eat. This one was fairly easy, and most children came up with lettuce. So, I had a volunteer come to the front of the class and dump a bag of lettuce into the mixing bowl. Next, I moved on to roots. Some children mentioned carrots, so I had another volunteer dump a bag of carrots into the mixing bowl. We continued this with each part of the plant. I used tomato as the fruit, asparagus as the stem, and broccoli as the flower. While we made the salad, we reviewed the function of each plant part. Surprisingly, the children loved the salad and gobbled it up.

Possible Questions:

1. Give the students a worksheet with a flower on it, and have the students label each part.
2. What does photosynthesis make that humans need to breathe? What does photosynthesis make that plants need?
3. Why are roots important?
4. What part of the plant carries out photosynthesis?
5. Which part of the plant contains seeds?

Assessment/Evaluation:

I evaluated this lesson by the participation of each student and their ability to pay attention. In a later lesson, I made sure the students learned the information we had discussed earlier. One way I did this was to play plant bingo. I made a bingo board with different plant words on it. If the children knew each part and its function then they would get bingo and win a prize.