



The Garden Centre

This oral language activity involves discussing the picture of the garden centre in the activity book on page 82. It may be used as preparatory work for the corresponding Aistear unit on 'The Garden Centre', it both develops vocabulary as well as introduces possible scenarios for role play.

- ⊗ Begin the lesson by asking pupils if they have ever visited a garden centre. Continue with a short discussion, allowing pupils to talk about their experiences.
- ⊗ Next, encourage pupils to look at the picture in the activity book in pairs and identify what they see.
- ⊗ Finally, ask pupils to pose their own questions based on what they can see in the picture.
- ⊗ It is recommended that the teacher only asks some of the questions given below, as by giving pupils the opportunity to discuss the picture amongst themselves, the children will actually answer most of the questions without the teacher having to direct and over structure the questioning.



Questions – The Garden Centre

Where is this?

Have you ever been to a garden centre?

Who did you go with?

What did they buy there?

Look at the picture, what things can you buy for your garden here?

How many people work in the garden centre? Are they all doing the same job?

What is the person by the cash register doing? What do we call them?
[A sales assistant]



What are the three people outside doing? What do we call them?
[Horticulturists / gardeners]

Can you think of any other jobs a horticulturist / gardener might do?

- ⊙ Clean garden centre
- ⊙ Weeding
- ⊙ Plant seeds
- ⊙ Order flowers
- ⊙ Work in the greenhouse
- ⊙ Explain to customers how to care for their garden

What would the horticulturist / gardener use to water the trees or plants?
[Hose, watering can, spray bottle or sprinklers]

Why might the horticulturist decide to use a hose and not a watering can?

Why might they decide to use a spray bottle?

Why might they decide to use a sprinkler?

What time of year must they water the plants every day?

What would you call the person in charge of the garden centre? [A manager]

What types of plants can you buy in the garden centre?

How much are the trees? bushes? plants? seeds?

What do you think the sales assistant is saying to the customer?

- ⊙ Is that all for today?
- ⊙ That €..... please
- ⊙ Do you need help carrying that to your car?
- ⊙ Would you like to pay with cash or by card?
- ⊙ Here is your receipt / receipt and change
- ⊙ Have a nice day

If you didn't know how to plant a tree, who could you ask?

How might the conversation go?

- ⊙ Excuse me, could I ask you a question about planting a tree?
- ⊙ I'm unsure how to plant this tree.



- ⊙ This is how you plant a tree:
 - ⊙ Pick a good spot
 - ⊙ Dig a wide hole
 - ⊙ Put the tree and the roots in the hole
 - ⊙ Add the soil
 - ⊙ Water the tree

- ⊙ What type of tree are you looking for?

If we were to pretend to have a garden centre – what might we need? Can you explain why we might need each of these items?

- ⊙ Cash register and pretend money
- ⊙ Receipts
- ⊙ Paper bags
- ⊙ Plant pots
- ⊙ Packets of seeds
- ⊙ Artificial flowers or real flowers
- ⊙ Buckets
- ⊙ Toy lawn mowers
- ⊙ Toy wheelbarrows
- ⊙ Toy rakes and spades
- ⊙ Gardening gloves
- ⊙ Trowels
- ⊙ Watering cans
- ⊙ Bird houses
- ⊙ Bags of nuts for birds
- ⊙ Wellies
- ⊙ Badges for garden centre workers – sales assistant, horticulturist, manager, etc.

