

Sensational seeds

<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/gpe/case3/index.html>

An online investigation about what seeds need to grow.

<http://www.naturegrid.org.uk/qca/unit5blifecycles.html>

Try the seed dispersal experiments to take a closer look at wind dispersal.

Students could build models to show seed and fruit dispersal mechanisms that exist in nature. They could use the ideas below or make up an idea of their own.

Agent of dispersal	Special Structure	Plant example	Model	Materials required
Wind	Parachute and balloon structures	Dandelion, spear thistle	Handmade parachute	Polystyrene, square of material, string, sellotape
Wind	Wings or rotor	Sycamore, silver birch	Sycamore seed shape cut out, rotor devise	Card and scissors, rotor from a toy
Animals (digestion)	Attractiveness	Tomato, hawthorn	Ball covered in sweets	Small ball, double sided tape, small sweets
Animals (hitchhiking on hair or fur)	Hooks or sticks to fur then moved by animals	Cleavers, teasel, daisy	Ball covered in Velcro hooks	Polystyrene ball, Velcro hooked tape
Water	Floating	Coconut	Light weight ball	Small ball that floats in water
Explosion of fruit	Structures under pressure	Squirting cucumber	Inflated balloon filled with beads	Balloon, beads
Gravity	Weight	Acorn	Heavy ball	A heavy ball