

# Pre and Post Lesson Activity Ideas

TOPICS

APPLES

KEY STAGE

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## Pre Lesson Activity Ideas

### Apple uses

How many uses of apples can you find and apple trees.

### Apples through history and stories

Think where apples have been involved in history / mythology.

For example; Adam and Eve; Isaac Newton; William Tell; Greek / Roman / Norse myths

Stories: There are lots of children books with apples in the title or involve apples. See what you can find.

e.g. Little Apple Goat by Caroline Jayne Church

### Apple games

How many games can you find involving apples?

For example:

*Apple bobbing; Hanging apples; Apple peeling the longest peel; Pin the apple on the tree; apple relays; How many seeds in your apple.*

Can you invent your own?

## Post Lesson Activity Ideas

### Growing seeds

Growing seeds of apples can be done but to produce a fruiting tree takes a long time (10 years).

The seeds can be just put into soil and left outside hoping there will be a cold winter which will get them to germinate. However you can prepare the seeds to ensure greater success. The seeds from apples should be dried out for a couple of weeks and then need refridgerating for at least six weeks in a bag of damp peat in the fridge. Then plant them on a sunny windowsill, in paper cups for the kids to watch. The chances of seeds germinating is about 3 out of 10 so make sure you do a few to make sure you have some success. As soon as they outgrow the pot, plant them outside. Water well if conditions are hot or dry. The chance of the apples being delicious as the apple you got the seed from are very small. Each seed is likely to produce an apple variety not seen before which is unlikely to be nice to eat though there is always a chance it could be the next Granny Smith!? Thus it is difficult to grow apple trees from seed, there is some advice on the Internet.

An easier way is to buy a sapling tree from a nursery and look after this, it will produce fruit in a few years and you can choose the variety so you are guaranteed some tasty apples. Look on the RHS web site for advice.

To get children to understand the needs of a seed to germinate you can use other seeds such as Cress, Sunflower, Peas, Beans Lettuce or Tomatoes.

### Apple art

Create collages of apples using paper or natural materials, these can be based on different varieties so building up a class apple tree with lots of different varieties of apple.

Try apple prints, carve out shapes and use these to create pictures and patterns.

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If your class has access to lots of apples, (your community is likely to have a surplus) you could have a go at an apple mosaic. If you can get hold of different colours you can build a picture using apples only.

For examples see:

- [http://mygarden.rhs.org.uk/blogs/jim\\_gardiner/archive/2007/10/09/painting-with-apples.aspx](http://mygarden.rhs.org.uk/blogs/jim_gardiner/archive/2007/10/09/painting-with-apples.aspx)
- <http://apps.rhs.org.uk/schoolgardening/teachershome/news/southeast/applemosaic2008.aspa>

#### Apple cooking

Try cooking with apples, there are many recipes out there for your to experiment with. Below is a web site with a variety of dishes using Bramley apples.

- [www.bramleyapples.co.uk/baking\\_recipes.html](http://www.bramleyapples.co.uk/baking_recipes.html)

You could make it community event and have a 'Community Crumble' using surplus apples that children can bring in and invite your local community in for Apple Crumble and Custard. Children can be involved in writing invites, bring in ingredients, help make the crumble and host the visitors to the school.