Confused buds

Objective
Students learn the importance of recording measurements, sort and evaluate data, practice asking questions.

Activity description
This activity requires a teacher’s preparation. Go out with a camera in spring. Take pictures of as many tree buds as the number of groups you want to have in class. It would be ideal if students worked in groups of four. Photograph the same trees once a week three times in a row (3 weeks). Print out the pictures and jumble them. Then come to class “unhappy” that you took such time with preparation of the lesson but the pictures got mixed and the outcome is uncertain, unless the students help you to sort them out. Students examine the pile of photographs. They quickly pick pictures of one tree and form a group. Write dates when you photographed the trees on the board. Students glue the pictures on a sheet of paper in the correct order and write down the dates. Do they have any questions? For example: What kind of tree is it? How much it grew in a given time? What does it look like now? Students are motivated to further research.

© GLOBE Czech Republic