



**THE GLOBE
PROGRAM**

Phonology Spring Campaign 2020

St. Francis Primary School, Gozo, Malta

Year 6 students



Learning about Fig Trees ...



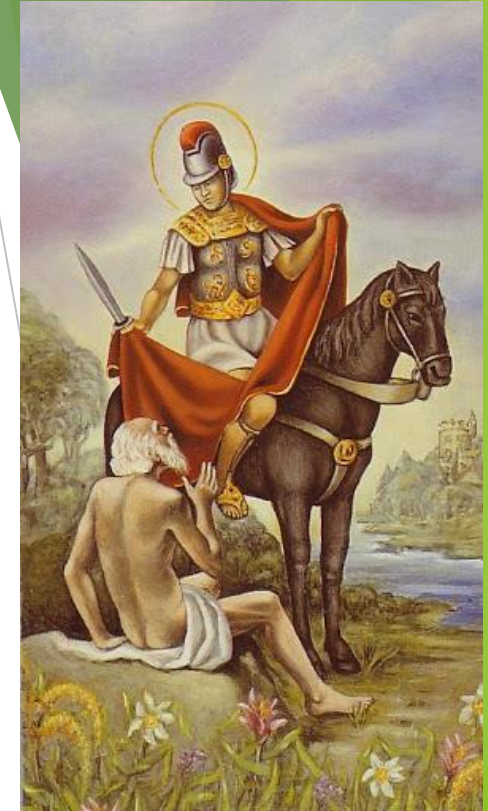
...through
observation
and research



Jacques

- ▶ The fig tree is an indigenous tree native to the Mediterranean region.
- ▶ It was cultivated in the Maltese island for centuries and we often see it growing wild in our country site.
- ▶ We even mention the figs in the popular rhyme:

‘Gewż, lewż, qastan, tin,
Kemm inħobbu lil San Martin’!



Clyde

- ▶ Fig trees can take from 3 to 5 years before bearing fruit after planting. Once a fig tree reaches maturity, it can be expected to produce fruit once to twice per year and can continue to fruit for decades.



Owen

- ▶ The fig tree grows up to 7 to 10 meters. The fig tree is adapted for the Mediterranean climate.
- ▶ Figs need a sunny spot that is protected from winter winds.



Mireille

- ▶ The fig tree has broad rough deciduous leaves. When the leaves and stems are broken, white latex comes out. The fig tree grows figs which have a unique sweet taste, soft and chewy texture and are littered with crunchy edible seeds.
- ▶ Fresh figs are delicate and perishable so are often dried to preserve them.



Isaac

- ▶ The fig is among one of the oldest fruit in the whole entire world.
- ▶ A fig is a soft sweet fruit.
- ▶ There are more than 800 species of fig trees around the world.
- ▶ A fig is also known as a very popular snack.



Andreas

- ▶ Fig trees have no blossoms on their branches. The blossom is inside the fruit! Many tiny flowers produce the crunchy little edible seeds that give figs their unique texture.



Keran

- ▶ Figs are perfect fruit to grow in pots. You can grow an indoor fig tree or grow a fig tree in a container outdoors. Figs make beautiful patio plants. While European figs require pollination by a tiny wasp, the female figs in north America do not require pollination to produce fruit. This makes them easy to grow anywhere with sufficient light.



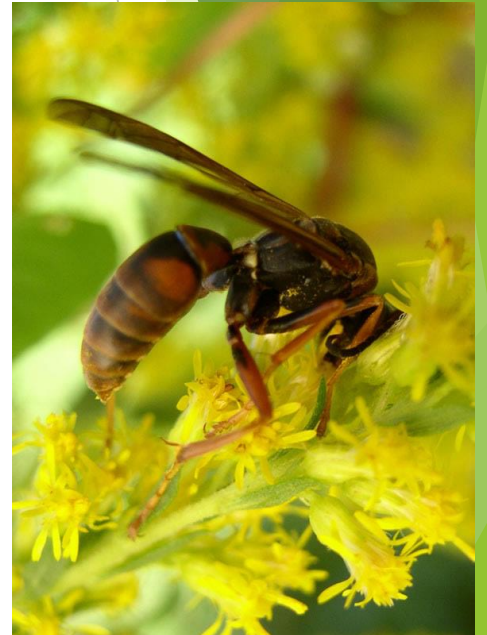
Jacob

- ▶ Fig trees can take from 3 to 5 years before bearing fruits after planting.
- ▶ Their rooting process takes a full growing season, while fruit production can be 4 to 6 years out. Fig trees start by producing slowly with just a few fruits during the first years.
- ▶ The fig can be cooked and tastes good. I had the pleasure of trying out a vanilla pistachio fig tart and it was very tasty.



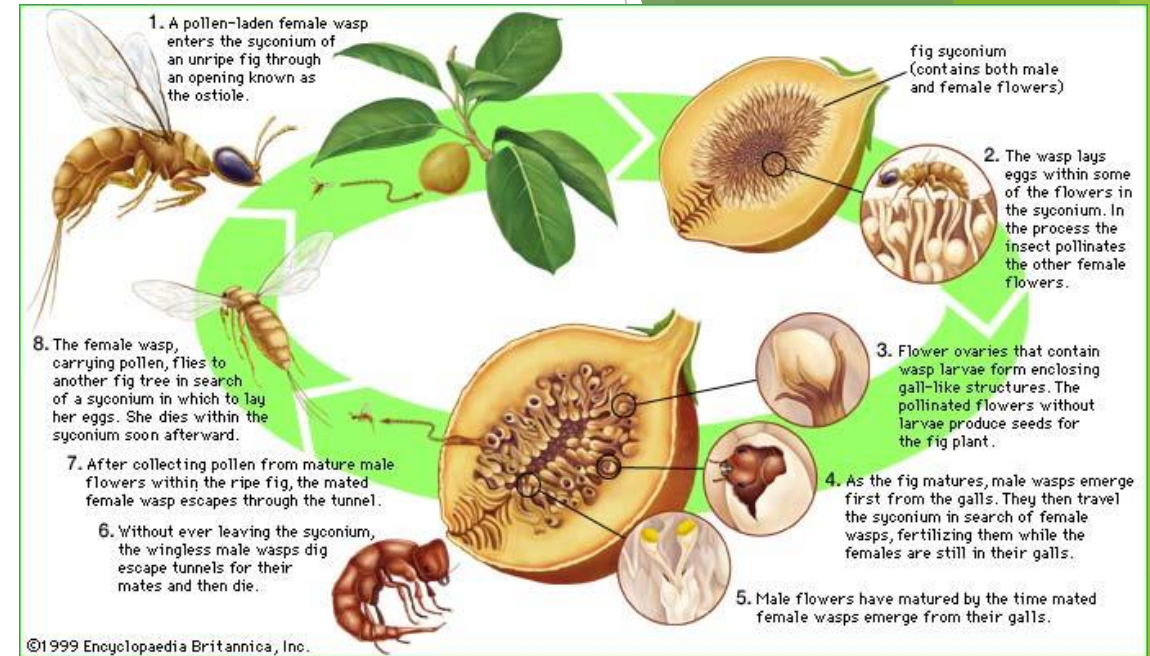
Miguel

- ▶ Figs are a delicious treat that thrive in warm climates, but can also be grown in more temperate regions.
- ▶ Fig trees grow to nearly 20 feet (6 meters) in height and with large leaves, the fig tree provides pleasant shade.
- ▶ Some fig trees, the common ones (*Ficus carica*) do not need pollination to produce fruit. On the other hand, there are other species of fig tree that rely on wasps for pollination.



Faith

- ▶ Fig trees grow best in places where there are long and hot summers, like Malta.
- ▶ The fruiting cycle is 120 - 150 days. Some varieties produce 1 crop per year, others 2.
- ▶ Fig trees can grow 20 feet tall and wide.



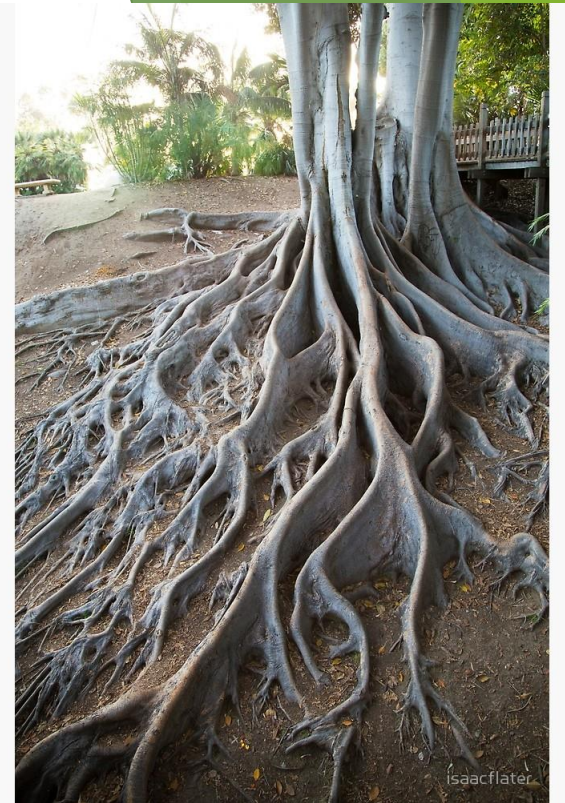
Carl

- ▶ Figs are amongst the oldest fruit. Figs can be dried. Figs are not really fruits, but flowers turned inside out.



Rianne

- ▶ The fig tree, known in Maltese as ‘Sığra tat-tin’ was one of the first plants to be cultivated. It remains in leaf and produces figs during the hottest months. It manages to do this by having an aggressive root system that can dig deep in the earth .



Luca

- ▶ Growing period: The fruiting cycle is 120-150 days. Some varieties produce one crop per year, other two. Trees have been known to live as long as 200 years.
- ▶ Growing conditions: Figs thrive best in a areas of moderate relative humidity and can be grown at higher elevations in areas of low rainfall.



Martina V.

- ▶ The fig tree is synonymous with the Mediterranean area even though it is originally from the Middle East and western Asia. Along with the grape vine and olive tree, the fig tree was one of the first trees to be domesticated.
- ▶ Its cultivation marked the start of horticulture on the Mediterranean. Nowadays the fig is cultivated for its fruit as an ornamental tree far beyond the Mediterranean.



Kate

- ▶ Another word for fig tree is Ficus Carica. It originated in the middle East. Over 30 types of fig trees used to grow in Malta but now this number has gone down quite a bit. The fig tree sometimes makes early fruit which grows in June. In Maltese these figs are called 'Bajtar ta' San Gwann' because they are picked towards the end of June when we celebrate the feast of St John the Baptist.



Maya

- ▶ Figs trees originated from the Middle east and Northwestern Asia. These trees are fast growing and can grow to 20 or 30 ft tall. The leaves can be 4 to 8 inches wide. The fruit is good both for eating fresh and for preserving. When they are ready you can cut them in July.



Elena

- ▶ The fig tree is the most common type of tree mentioned in the Bible. It gives us figs which are very nutritious and can be eaten raw or dried. Some old Mediterranean practices use the milky sap from the leaves to soften hard skin and to keep away pests.



Chiara

- ▶ Fig trees have no blossoms on their branches. The blossom is inside the fruit. Many tiny flowers produce the crunchy little edible seeds that give figs their unique texture. Figs are harvested according to nature's clock, fully ripened and partially dried on the tree.



Giovanni

- ▶ Figs naturally help hold in moisture in baked goods, keep them fresher. Fig puree can be used to replace fat in goods.

