

Unit VI — Plant Health

Instructor Guide

The instructor should assign the performance-based assessment activity at the beginning of the unit. Students will work toward completing the activity as they progress through the unit lessons. The assessment activity will be due at the completion of the unit.

1. Assign each student one plant pest and one plant disease.
2. Have students write two reports: one about the pest and another about the disease. Reports should address the following topics:
 - Effects of the pest or disease on the plant
 - Warning signs the plant might exhibit to indicate the presence of the pest or disease
 - Recommended treatments and their application methods
3. Have students include pictures that illustrate the pest and disease.
4. Students may use material found in the unit or discussed in class as well as additional outside sources to complete their reports.
5. Students may not use the source material word for word and must provide a complete bibliography of their sources along with their reports.
6. The final assessment will be based on the overall content and presentation of the reports. Spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization will also be factors in the assessment.
7. **ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**
 - a. Have students examine the school's greenhouse for evidence of pests and diseases. Use their findings as the basis for a class discussion. Topics could include the following:
 - Was there evidence of pests or diseases?
 - What was the evidence?
 - What was the cause?
 - What treatment would you recommend?
 - If you did not find evidence of pests or diseases, what management methods were being used to keep the plants free of pests and diseases?
 - b. Use pictures from students' reports as illustrations for a class discussion about pests and diseases or as flash cards for a matching activity or review.