

Gatsby Plant Science Education Programme

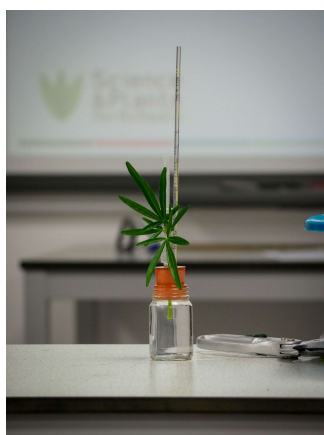
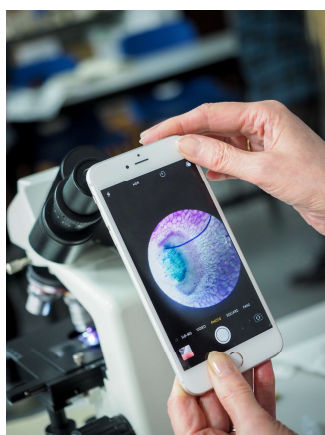


The Gatsby Plant Science Education Programme (GPSEP) aims to make a demonstrable difference to the formal teaching and learning of plant science for students of all ages in the UK.

Working closely with schools and colleges, the **Science and Plants for Schools (SAPS)** project advocates for presence of relevant and inspiring contemporary plant science in the school curriculum and qualifications, develops plant science teaching resources, and leads CPD for teachers to help support greater engagement with plants.

The higher education side of the programme seeks to nurture bioscience students in post-16 education online through the **Plant Science Futures** website. Through the **Gatsby Plant Science Summer School (GPSSS)** and career development events we aim to inspire the brightest UK bioscience undergrads to become the next generation of leading plant science researchers.

GPSEP is funded by the **Gatsby Charitable Foundation** and is an education project of the **University of Cambridge**, hosted jointly by the **Sainsbury Laboratory Cambridge** and the **Cambridge University Botanic Garden**.



The aims of Science and Plants for Schools (SAPS) project:

- Providing excellent (evidenced & impactful) teaching resources for secondary and post-16 teachers to exemplify UK national science curricula with plant examples and activities
- Supporting career-long teacher development
- Ensuring representation of plants in school science curricula
- Collaborating with other plant science education specialists to improve the teaching of plant science in UK schools and colleges

Why do we do this:

- To improve teacher and technician confidence and enthusiasm in the teaching of plant science
- All good biologists should have an awareness of the place of plants in science and the world around us
- To boost the pipeline of future plant scientists

What we do, with whom and how:

- We work within the formal science education sector, supporting the national curriculum in the UK
- We support teachers and science technicians, and are strongly curriculum focussed in the resources we provide and develop
- We work closely with Initial Teacher Educators (ITE) to provide new teachers with the resources they need to teach and develop
- To make sure our resources are impactful we collaborate with teachers, technicians and ITE during development
- To further our evidence-based approach we are exploring research findings in how best to teach and engage students with plants

We're looking for:

- Evidence on the best ways to engage, teach and support both teachers and students with plant science
- Project partners, to produce evidence-based approaches to teaching and engaging about plants
- Connections with those in the plant science education community

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Project websites: www.saps.org.uk www.plantsciencefutures.org.uk

