



Age  
7-14

# Plant families

Potato  
(*Solanum tuberosum*)

Supported by



Look around you anywhere at Kew. How many different plants can you see?



How could you group some of these plants together?



How do you think Kew scientists group plants together?



What is a family?

How can you tell if people are in the same family?

How could you tell if plants are in the same family?



Find a plant that has a label. Find the name of the plant family in the top right-hand corner of the label.



Can you find the same plant family name on the labels of any other plants nearby?



Look closely at two plants from the same family. (You may want to take a photo to help you compare.)



Do they look the same? What are the differences?



Why do you think it is important for us to know what family a plant belongs to?

### Did you know?

In the wild, you can find similar plants (family relatives) to the food crops we eat. These wild plants have a greater genetic diversity and can be used in plant breeding to make crops more resistant to plant diseases and threats, such as climate change. Kew scientists are researching the wild relatives of 29 important food crops (including potatoes) for conservation and future plant breeding.