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The Scented Garden

Plants

A plant is a living thing. Plants are useful because they give us oxygen to breathe and food to eat. There are many different plants found all over the United Kingdom.

Common plants

Roses come in lots of different colours and have a lovely scent.

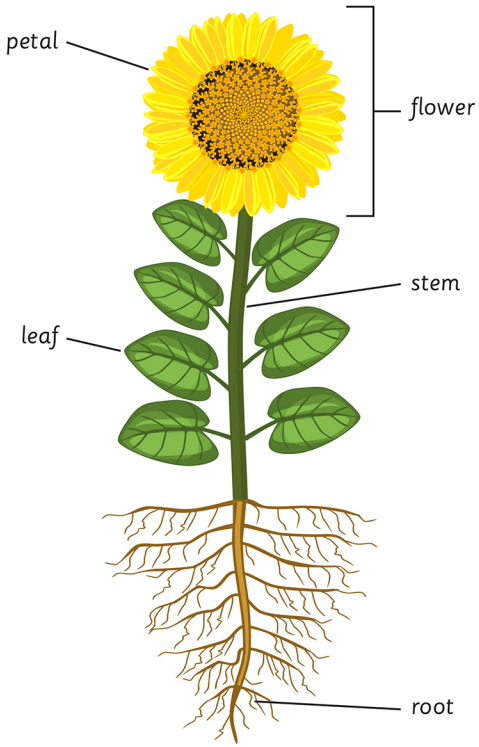
Daffodils are mostly yellow, white or orange and come in different shapes and sizes.

Poppies are mostly bright red with a black centre and are worn on Remembrance Day.

Bluebells have a bell-shaped flower and can often be seen in woodland areas.

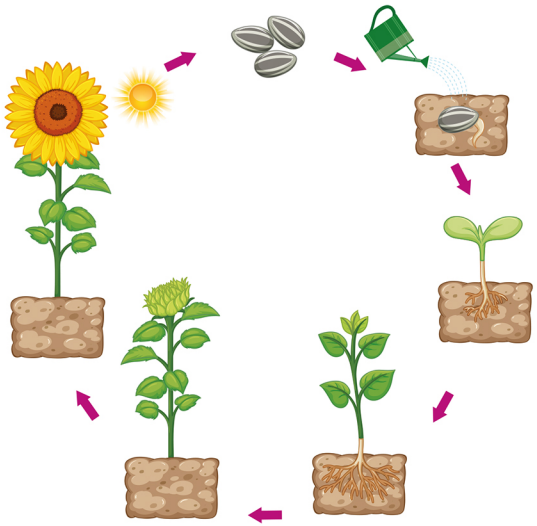
Parts of a plant

A plant has several different parts. The main parts are called the roots, stem, leaves and flower. Each part has a job to keep the plant healthy. Roots take in water from the soil. The stem supports the plant and also transports water to the leaves and flowers. Leaves make food for the plant. Flowers produce seeds to make new plants.



How plants grow

A plant grows from a seed or bulb. Seeds and bulbs need nutrients from soil, water and warmth to germinate. Plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.



Life cycle of a sunflower

Caring for the environment

Taking care of the environment can help plants to grow. Removing litter and weeds will give plants more space and make the area look tidier. Compost can be added to improve the soil and new seeds or bulbs can be planted.

Tip: Print in A3.

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Useful plants

Herbs and spices are plants that can be used in cooking, medicines and perfumes. They can be used straight from the plant or can be dried. Herbs come from the leafy part of the plant and spices come from the roots, seeds, flowers, berries, bark and stems.

Basil is a herb.

Ginger is a spice.

Harmful plants

Some plants can be harmful if they are touched or eaten. They can cause problems with the skin, sickness or even death. It is best to stay away from these types of plants.

Deadly nightshade can cause sickness or death if eaten.

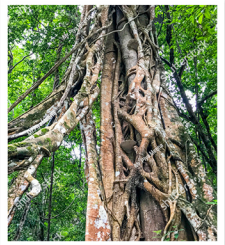
Poison ivy can cause an itchy rash if touched.

Plant adaptations

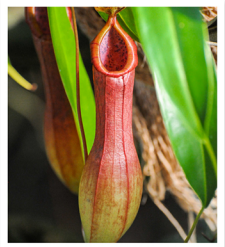
Plants have adapted to their environment. This means they have developed special ways to live in different places.

Cacti grow in dry places. They can store a lot of water in their large stem. Cacti also have roots that spread out over a large area so they can collect as much water as possible from dry ground.

Lianas are woody vines that grow in the dense, dark rainforests. They have their roots in the ground and their stems quickly climb high up the rainforest trees to reach the sunlight.



Pitcher plants have adapted to get nutrients from insects. The plant attracts insects with sugary nectar. Insects climb inside but the leaves are slippery so the insects cannot get out. The plant then uses a special liquid to digest them.



Glossary

bud	A small growth on a plant that develops into a leaf, flower or new shoot.
flower	The part of a plant that is often brightly coloured, produces a pleasant scent to attract insects and creates seeds.
germinate	When a seed starts to grow and puts out a shoot.
leaf	The part of a plant that grows out of the stem and uses sunlight to make food.
nutrient	Substances that help plants and animals live and grow.
petal	The part of a plant that is often colourful and makes up most of the flower with other petals.
root	The part of a plant that grows out of the seed and deep into the ground to find water and nutrients.
seed	A small, hard grain from which a new plant can grow.
shoot	The part of a plant that grows upwards out of a seed before it develops into the stem and leaves.
stem	The part of a plant that grows upwards, towards the light. It supports the plant.

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