

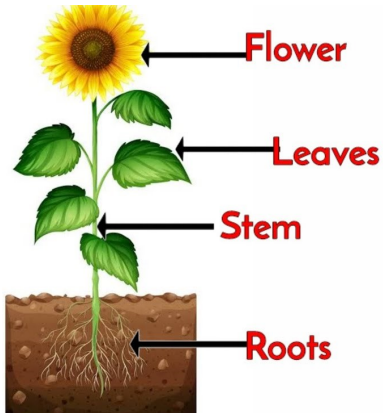
Year 3: Plants

THE FUNCTION OF PARTS OF PLANTS:

The roots absorb water and nutrients from the soil and anchor the plant in place.

The stem holds the leaves and flowers upright in the air and transports water to the leaves.

The leaves use sunlight and water to produce the plant's food.



SEED DISPERSAL:

Some seeds are dispersed by the wind. These seeds are designed to float, glide, or spin through the air.

Plants growing near a river may use the flowing water to transport their seeds.

Some seed pods are designed to explode and project the seeds a good distance from the parent plants..

Many plants use animals to carry seeds around. These seeds have hooks which attach to an animals fur.

Plants might make fruit to enclose the seeds, which attract animals to eat them. These are then excreted onto the ground.

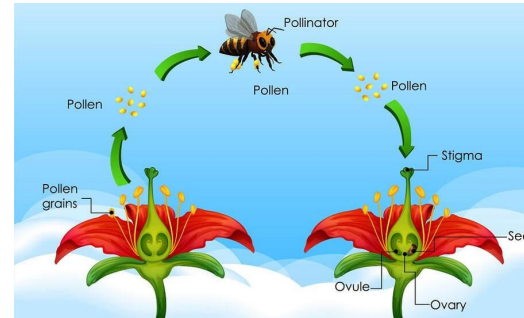


POLLINATION:

Some plants produce flowers which enables them to reproduce.

Pollen, which is produced by the male part of the flower (stamen) is transferred to the female part of the flower (stigma). This is called pollination.

Insects, such as bees and butterflies are known as pollinators because they attract pollen and transport it from plant to plant.



Pollination forms seeds, sometimes contained in berries or fruits, which are then dispersed in different ways.

A seed contains a young plant and a store of food wrapped in a tough, protective coat.

CONDITIONS FOR GERMINATION AND GROWTH:

For a seed to start growing, it needs the right conditions. The required conditions can be different depending on the plant.

For most plants, moisture from the soil, oxygen and the right temperature are required for growth.

A seed falls to the ground and becomes buried in the soil.

In warm and moist conditions, the seed breaks open and it send out a root and a green stem. This is called germination.

The root grows down to take up nutrients from the soil and the shoot grows up towards the sunlight to becomes a stem. The seed becomes a seedling.

As the first leaves emerge, the plant is able to produce its own food.



KEY VOCABULARY:



BLOSSOM: a flower or mass of flowers, especially on a tree or bush



DISPERSED: scattered, separated, or spread through a large area



EMBRYO: an unborn or unhatched offspring in the process of development



FLOWERS: part of a plant that's brightly coloured and grows at the end of the stem



FRUIT: something which grows on a tree or bush which contains seeds or a stone covered in a substance which can be eaten



GERMINATION: to develop or grow a plant from a seed



PHOTOSYNTHESIS: the process by which green plants use sunlight to create energy from carbon dioxide and water.



POLLEN: the fine powdery substance, typically yellow, found in plants



POLLINATION: the transfer or pollen to a flower or plant to allow fertilisation



REPRODUCE: when an animal or plant produces one or more individuals similar to itself.



STAMEN: the male fertilising organ of a flower



STIGMA: the top of the centre part of a flower which take in the pollen