

# Read About What Plants Need

## WHAT DO PLANTS NEED?

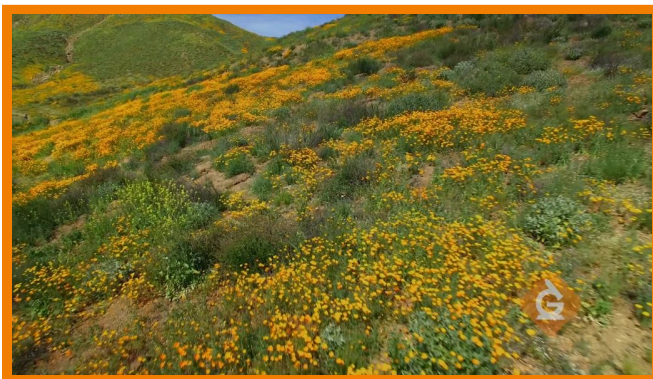
Plants are living things that need water and light to grow. One major difference between an animal and a plant is that animals have to eat things while plants make their own food using water, light and air.

*To better understand why plants need water and light...*

## LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

### There are many different kinds of plants on Earth.

Different kinds of plants live all over the world. They come in different shapes and sizes, but they all have one thing in common. They all need water and light to grow.



### Plants are very helpful to animals and people.

Plants provide oxygen, which is the air we breathe. Plants also provide wild animals with food and shelter. Humans eat many plant parts such as strawberries and lettuce.

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## Plants grow from seeds.

When a seed receives water and sunlight, it grows into a healthy plant. A small plant can grow in a few months, but a big tree can take many years to fully grow.



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## Plants need water and sunlight to grow.

All plants need water and sunlight to help them grow. Most plants also grow best when planted in soil, but soil is not a requirement for plant growth. You can grow a plant without soil!

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## Plants need time to grow.

Just like people, plants need time to grow. Once a seed grows its roots, it will then start growing a stem, leaves and sometimes flowers.



## PLANT VOCABULARY

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### Seed

Part of a plant that can grow into a new plant.

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### Plant

A living thing that makes its own food. Plants need sunlight and water to grow.

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### Sunlight

Light from the sun.

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**Roots**

Part of a plant that absorbs water from the ground.

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**Stem**

Part of a plant that helps it stand up straight and support the leaves.

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**Germination**

The process by which a seed begins to grow into a plant.

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## **QUESTIONS ABOUT PLANTS**

### **What do all plants need to grow?**

All plants need water and sunlight to grow.

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### **How can a plant grow without soil?**

It can still grow as long as it receives water and sunlight. The roots of a plant help it stand up straight and help the plant take in water from the ground. As long as the plant gets water from the roots and sunlight, it can grow.

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### **Why would it not be okay to keep a plant in a dark place?**

If a plant was kept in a dark place, it would not get sunlight. Without sunlight, the plant could not grow.

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### **Can a plant grow if it has sunlight, but no water?**

No. Plants need both sunlight and water to grow.

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### **Do plants grow fast or slow?**

Seeds begin growing when they are planted, but it can take a few days or weeks before we can see a plant forming. For a small plant to grow it can take months and for a tree to fully grow it can take years.

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### **What happens if a plant receives too much water?**

Too much water can stop a plant from growing. Some plants need more water than others, and some need more sunlight than others. When taking care of a plant, it is important to know the best conditions to keep the plant healthy.

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