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# Plants Around Us



## LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- ★ Types of plants
- ★ Uses of plants
- ★ Where do plants grow?

Plants are found almost everywhere on the Earth, in the water and on the land. Plants are found in different sizes and shapes. They make their own food and give us many things like food and clothing. They make our environment beautiful and help us to breathe.

## TYPES OF PLANTS



Gulmohar Banyan

**Trees** - Very big, tall and strong plants like neem, gulmohar, banyan and mango are called trees. They have a thick, brown, woody stem called the trunk. Most trees live for many years.



Rose Hibiscus

**Shrubs** - Small bushy plants like rose, hibiscus and mehndi are called shrubs. They are smaller than trees and have hard and thin stems. They have many branches. They also live for many years.



Grass Mint

**Herbs** - Very small plants like spinach, grass and mint have a thin, weak stem and live only for one season. They are called herbs.

## infobits

1. At night, plants breathe like us. They take in oxygen and give out carbon dioxide.
2. Whereas during the day, they take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen.



## TEACHER'S NOTES

Guide the students to be sensitive towards plants. Motivate them to water the plants daily. Elucidate that plants are important for our survival.





Pea plant



Grapevine

Weak plants such as pea plant, grapevine and money plant have very thin stem and need support to stand. They are called **climbers**.



Weak plants such as pumpkin, muskmelon and watermelon have thin and soft stems. They grow along the ground and are called **creepers**.



Watermelon (creeper)

### Where do plants grow?

Plants grow almost everywhere - on land and in or near water. Plants that grow on land are called **terrestrial plants**.



### Fact Finder

- Bamboo is an extremely rapid growing plant.



## TYPES OF TERRESTRIAL PLANTS

### Desert Plants

Cactus and date palm grow in hot, dry deserts, where there is very little or no rainfall. The leaves of cactus are reduced to spines.



Cactus

### Plants in the Hills

Pine and spruce are plants that grow in the hills, where the climate is cold and dry. Hilly areas are covered with coniferous trees that are tall and have needle-like leaves.



Spruce



## Plants in Marshy Area

Plants that grow in marshy areas, where the soil is sticky and waterlogged are called **mangroves**. These plants have **breathing roots** that grow above the soil to take in air.



Mangroves roots

## TYPES OF AQUATIC PLANTS

The plants that grow in water or near water are called **aquatic plants**.



Floating Plants



Fixed Plants

### Floating Plants

Duckweed and wolffia are floating plants.

### Fixed Plants

Lotus and water lily are fixed plants. They are fixed to the water bed.



Submerged Plants

### Submerged Plants

Hydrilla and tapegrass are submerged plants.

## Some Unusual Plants

Moulds, mushrooms and yeasts are non-green plants. They get their food from dead and decaying plants and animals.

Some plants eat insects. A Venus flytrap catches an insect between its leaves. The pitcher plant and sundew also eat insects.



Mushroom



Venus flytrap

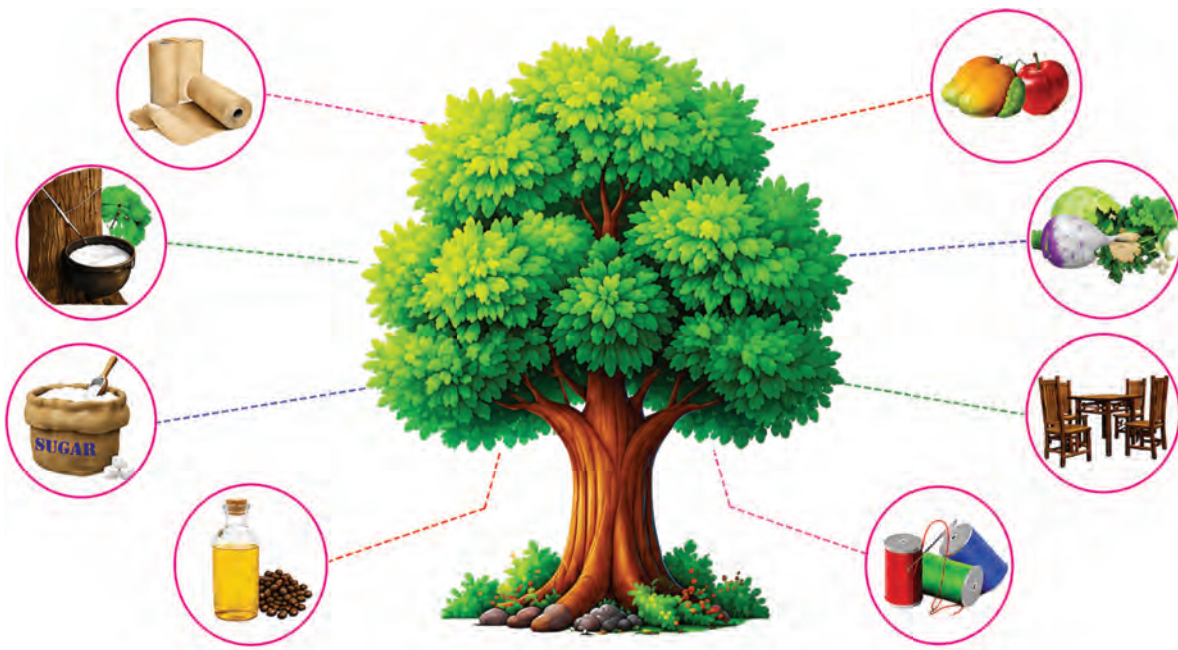
## Uses of Plants

- Plants are important for us. They are our green friends.
- Plants give us food in the form of vegetables, fruits, pulses, cereals, spices, coffee, sugar and oil.
- Plants give us rubber, paper and oil.
- Plants give us fibres such as cotton and jute. We make cloth from fibres.
- We make many medicines from plants such as neem, tulsi, eucalyptus.
- We use wood of trees such as teak for making furniture, toys and paper.
- Woods of trees are also used as fuel for fire and light.



### Let Me Answer

- Do you get oil from plants?
- How often do you water plants?



## Some More Uses of Plants

1. Plants keep the air clean by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.
2. Plants are used for landscaping and making the environment beautiful.
3. Plants give us shade.
4. Plants are a home to many birds and animals.



## New Plants



Broccoli

There are many new plants, fruits and vegetables available in the market nowadays that were not there when our grandparents were children. Broccoli (vegetable), kinnow (fruit), soyabean (crop) and tulips (flowers) are some examples of new plants. Many plants were grown in other countries and brought to India. Plants are an important part of our lives. We should take care of them.

Litchi



Litchi has come from China

Kiwi



Kiwi has come from New Zealand

Kinnow



Kinnow has come from California



## Summary



- Plants are found almost everywhere – on the land and in water.
- Trees, shrubs, herbs, climbers and creepers are different types of plants.
- Plants that grow on land are called terrestrial plants.
- Plants that grow in or near water are called aquatic plants.
- Plants give us many things.
- We should take care of plants.





## EXERCISE



### A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

a. Where does lotus grow?

Mountain

☐

Water

☐

Trees

☐

b. Which one is a shrub?

Gulmohar

☐

Rose

☐

Mint

☐

c. Which one is a tree?

Mango

☐

Hibiscus

☐

Rose

☐

d. Which one is an insect eater?

Moulds

☐

Mushroom

☐

Pitcher Plant

☐

### B. Fill in the blanks.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ have many branches.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ grow along the ground.

c. We make furniture from \_\_\_\_\_.

d. Kiwi has come from \_\_\_\_\_.

e. Litchi has come from \_\_\_\_\_.



### C. Answer the following questions in short / very briefly.

a. Name a herb.

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Which type of plants grow in a desert?

\_\_\_\_\_

### D. Answer the following questions.

a. What is a tree?

b. What are herbs?

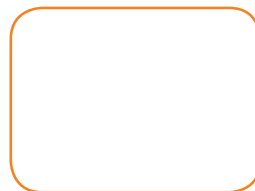
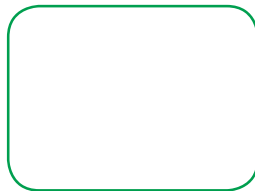
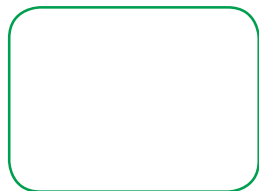
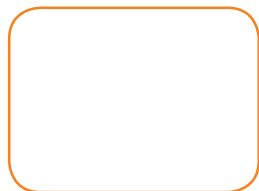
c. What are terrestrial plants?

d. What are aquatic plants?

e. How are plants useful to us?



- A. Make a chart on types of plants and hang it in your class.
- B. Paste pictures of six things we get from plants around this tree. Use old newspapers and magazines to find the pictures.



Write a few suggestions how to make Earth beautiful by planting trees.



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