Parts of a Plant

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: Roots take in water. The **stem** carries water and holds the plant up. **Leaves** make food. **Flowers** make seeds, which grow inside **fruit**.

Try it: put a celery stalk in coloured water. After a day, the colour travels up the stem!

Parts of a Plant



Every part of a plant has an important job.

The **roots** grow under the ground. They hold the plant in place and soak up water and nutrients from the soil.

The **stem** holds the plant up toward the light. It works like a straw, carrying water from the roots to the rest of the plant. Tree trunks are big, woody stems.

The **leaves** make food for the plant. They use sunlight, air and water to make sugar. The **flower** makes seeds. Bees and other insects carry pollen between flowers, which helps seeds form. The seeds grow inside a **fruit**, which protects them. Each seed can grow into a new plant.

1. Check your understanding

Circle the best answer.

1. What do roots do?

(a) Make seeds (b) Hold the plant and take in water (c) Make food

2. How is a stem like a straw?

(a) It carries water up the plant. (b) It is used for drinking juice.
(c) It is always plastic.

3. Which part makes food for the plant?

(a) The roots (b) The flower (c) The leaves

4. What grows inside a fruit?

(a) Seeds (b) Roots (c) Leaves

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2. Which part?

Circle the plant part that does each job.

1	soak up water from the soil	roots stem leaves
2	carries water up the plant	roots stem leaves
3	use sunlight to make food	roots stem leaves
4	hold the plant in the ground	roots stem leaves
5	holds the plant up toward light	roots stem leaves
6	are usually flat and green	roots stem leaves

3. Think like a scientist

Answer in a complete sentence.

1. **What would happen to a plant if its roots were cut off? Explain.**

Answer Key

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1. Check your understanding

1. What do roots do?

(a) Make seeds (b) **Hold the plant and take in water** (c) Make food

2. How is a stem like a straw?

(a) **It carries water up the plant.** (b) It is used for drinking juice. (c) It is always plastic.

3. Which part makes food for the plant?

(a) The roots (b) The flower (c) **The leaves**

4. What grows inside a fruit?

(a) **Seeds** (b) Roots (c) Leaves

2. Which part?

1	soak up water from the soil	**roots**	stem	leaves
2	carries water up the plant	roots	**stem**	leaves
3	use sunlight to make food	roots	stem	**leaves**
4	hold the plant in the ground	**roots**	stem	leaves
5	holds the plant up toward light	roots	**stem**	leaves
6	are usually flat and green	roots	stem	**leaves**

3. Think like a scientist

Sample answer.

1. **What would happen to a plant if its roots were cut off? Explain.**
   It would wilt and die, because it could not take in water and nutrients or stay in the ground.