

Plant Science



PLANTING FIELDS

Did you know that plants can breathe?

Plants do not eat food the same way we do. They actually make their own food using sunlight, water, and air. This process is called photosynthesis. Plants absorb sunlight through a pigment called chlorophyll, which makes their leaves green! The plant absorbs water from the soil through its roots. Then, the plant takes in carbon dioxide. The plant uses this sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide to make sugar (their food) and then they release oxygen into the air for us to breathe. Plants have small holes called stomata that allow it to take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen!

Try the activity below to observe this process at work!

Supplies:

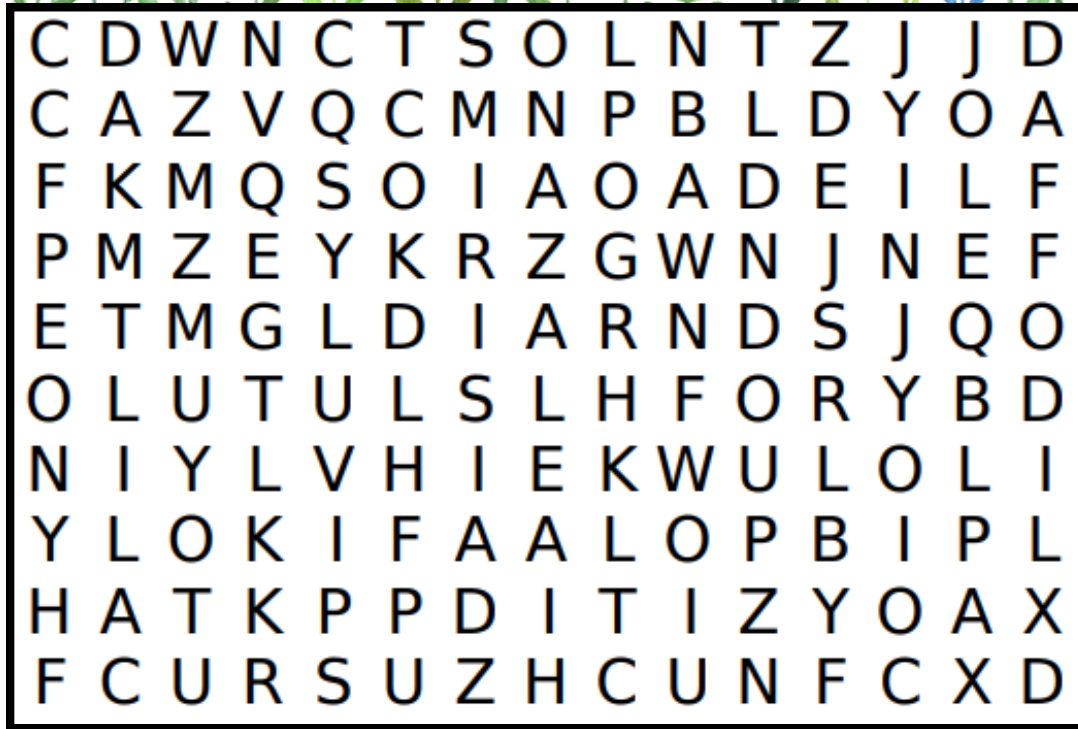
- Shallow glass bowl or container
- Fresh leaves (Actually removed from the tree!)
- Lukewarm water
- Patience! (This science activity will take a few hours before you can start to observe anything happening.)
- Magnifying glass (optional)

Instructions:

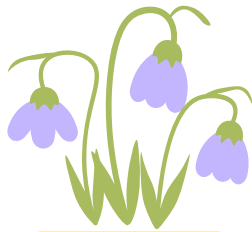
1. Cut a green leaf off of a plant or tree. You will need fresh leaves and not leaves picked off the ground.
2. Add lukewarm water to a shallow glass container or bowl.
3. Place a single layer of leaves inside the water, submerging them just below the surface with a small heavy item. Place the bowl in the sun.
4. Wait for 2 to 3 hours. While you wait, complete the activities on the next page!
5. Watch as little air bubbles form on the top of the leaves. If you have difficulty seeing the bubbles, use a small magnifying glass!



Spring Flower Word Search



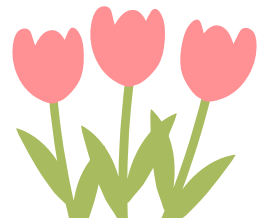
Camellia



Snowdrop



Azalea



Tulip



Pansy



Magnolia



Lilac



Iris



Daffodil



Peony

For an extra challenge, go outside with a parent/guardian and see how many of these flowers you can find in nature!