

249. Pod and Dusty Explain - Plants

PDFs - information texts from the PPTs to enlarge and use for shared reading.

low quality samples only

The Seed
 How does it know
 this little seed
 if it is to grow
 to a flower or a weed,
 if it is to be
 a vine or a shoot,
 or grow to a tree
 With a long deep root?
 A seed is so small
 where do you suppose
 it stores up all
 of the things it
 knows?



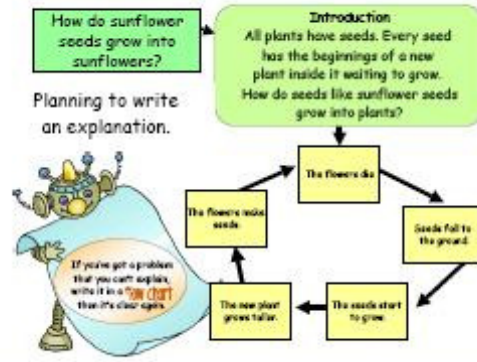
How do sunflower seeds grow into sunflowers?

Introduction
 All plants have seeds. Every seed has the beginnings of a new plant inside it waiting to grow. How do seeds like sunflower seeds grow into plants?

Planning to write an explanation.

The flowers do
 The flowers make seeds
 Seeds fall to the ground
 The seeds start to grow
 The new plant grows taller.

If you've got a problem that you can't explain, write it in a "low chart" that's clear again.



How do sunflower seeds grow into sunflowers?

All plants have seeds. Every seed has the beginnings of a new plant inside it waiting to grow. Have you ever wondered how sunflower seeds grow into sunflowers?

In the **autumn** the flowers die. When that happens, the seeds are ready to fall from the flower heads and make new plants. Birds like to eat sunflower seeds. They often fly away with them and drop them by accident. When seeds are dropped by birds, the seeds fall to the ground and they get covered over with soil and fallen leaves. They stay there all through the **winter**.

Why do some leaves change colour?

The leaves of some types of trees change from green to beautiful shades of yellow, orange and brown before they fall off the tree in the autumn. Why do some leaves change colour and fall off the tree? Read on and you will find out!

Leaves are important. They use sunlight to make food for the tree. Some trees lose all their leaves every year but if leaves are so important, why do some trees lose them? Trees lose leaves because in the autumn there's not enough sunlight for the leaves to make food. By the time autumn comes, the tree only has enough food stored to feed the branches and the tree trunk through the winter. There isn't enough food for the leaves and it's harder to get water from the soil in the winter time so, the tree has to lose its leaves.

Trees don't wait for it to get so cold that it's hard to find water and they don't wait for autumn winds and cold weather to damage their leaves. Instead, they get ready to lose their leaves long before that happens. First a corky layer grows across the leaf stalk. When that happens, water can't get to the leaf anymore.

New leaves start out green in colour. They are green because they have something inside called **chlorophyll** that makes them green. The green colour comes from the chlorophyll and it hides all the other colours. When the leaf can't get any more water, the **chlorophyll** that makes leaves green, breaks down and the other colours in the leaves - red, yellow and orange - appear. Then the leaf dries out and dies. After that, on a windy day, the wind blows it off the tree.

When the leaf falls it leaves a scar. Next to the scar are new leaf buds. Soon all the old leaves will have fallen off the tree. Then the tree, with its new leaf buds, will rest and wait until spring. When spring comes, the buds will begin to open. New leaves will appear. Until autumn comes again, the leaves will all be,.....**green!**

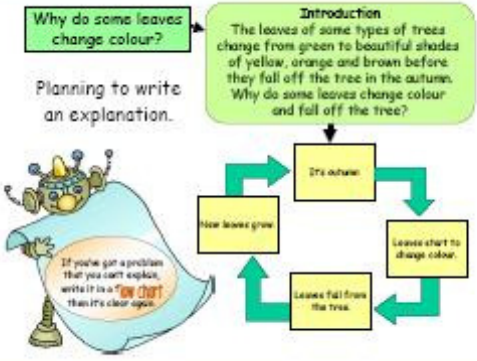
Why do some leaves change colour?

Introduction
 The leaves of some types of trees change from green to beautiful shades of yellow, orange and brown before they fall off the tree in the autumn. Why do some leaves change colour and fall off the tree?

Planning to write an explanation.

It's autumn
 Leaves start to change colour
 Leaves fall from the tree
 New leaves grow

If you've got a problem that you can't explain, write it in a "low chart" that's clear again.



Autumn Leaves

Autumn leaves float quietly down
 And form a carpet on the ground.
 But when those leaves are stepped upon,
 Listen for the crackling sound.



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