

Plants!

By Tracy Nelson Maurer



Table Of Contents

A Planet of Plants.....	4
Plant Parts.....	8
Food Factories.....	12
Plant Life Cycles.....	18
People Need Plants	28
Glossary.....	30
Index.....	31

A Planet of Plants

Plants live almost everywhere on Earth. They need sunlight, water, and air to grow. Most need soil for **nutrients**, too.



Fact Digger:

Plants have grown on Earth for more than 500 million years.



Sunflower buds seem to turn to face the Sun through the day.

About 400,000 plant **species** live on Earth. They have adapted, or changed in order to grow well in their **habitats**.



Plants in deserts can store water between rains.



Thick roots reach deeply into the soil in windy places.



Fact Digger:

Between 8 feet (2.5 meters)
and 15 feet (4.5 meters)
of rain falls every year
in a rainforest.



Some plants grow best in wet rainforests.

Plant Parts

Each part of a plant has a job.

- Roots anchor the plant in soil and soak up water and nutrients.
- The stem holds the plant upright and stores water.
- Leaves turn sunlight into food for the plant.
- Flowers or fruits make seeds.
- Seeds grow into baby plants.

