



GARDENER BADGE RESOURCE

ACTIVITY PACK



INTRODUCTION



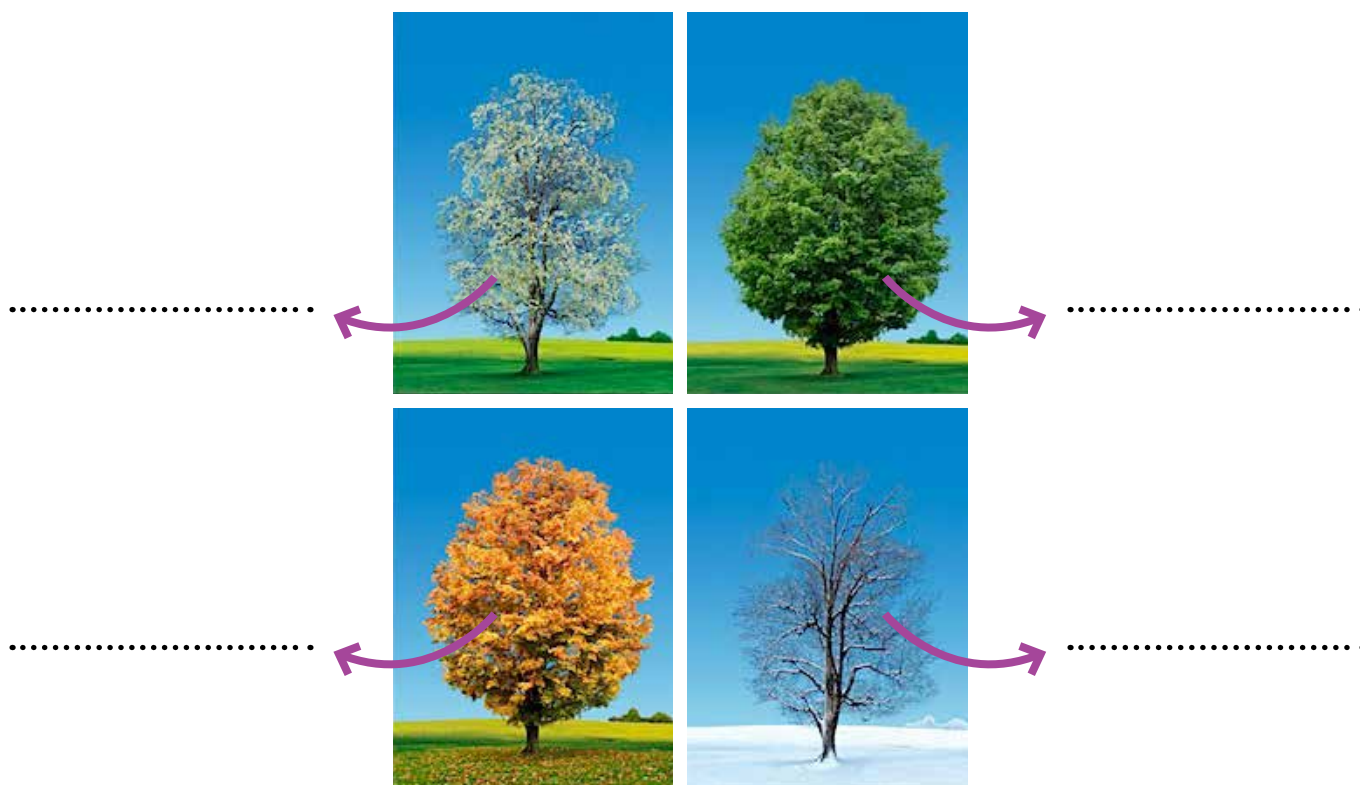
It's so easy to go to the supermarket and buy a basketful of fruit and vegetables to put on the table. There are so many varieties it's possible to have a different kind for every meal in a week. But have you ever thought about where they come from, and what it took to grow them?

This pack is going to tell you everything you need to know about growing plants and show you how to grow your own. Even better, if you do all the activities you'll earn yourself a Scout badge. And when you finally get to pick the vegetable that you have grown from seed, notice how much better it tastes! Have fun!

BADGE REQUIREMENT 1: KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO TREES IN EACH OF THE FOUR SEASONS

ACTIVITY 1: USE ART TO SHOW TREES IN ALL SEASONS

What a difference a season makes. See how the same tree looks so different in spring, summer, autumn and winter. Can you tell which season each picture is taken in? Write it down next to each tree.



Your leader will help you to use art to create your own seasonal trees.

BADGE REQUIREMENT 2: KNOW HOW TO USE SOME GARDENING TOOLS SAFELY

ACTIVITY 1: TOOLS FOR THE JOB

See if you can identify these gardening tools:

SPADE

PLANT POTS

WATERING CAN

GARDENING FORK

RAKE

BAG OF SEEDS

TROWEL

GARDENING GLOVES



This is a _____



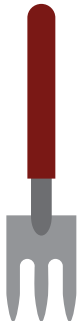
This is a _____



This is a _____



This is a _____



This is a _____



This is a _____



These are _____



These are _____

ACTIVITY 2: UNDERSTANDING WHAT DIFFERENT TOOLS DO

Your leader will read out descriptions of tools one at a time—guess what they are. Use the pictures in Activity 1 on the previous page to help you.



ACTIVITY 3: TOOL DETECTIVE!

Where are the dangers in this picture? Circle them and describe them to your friends.

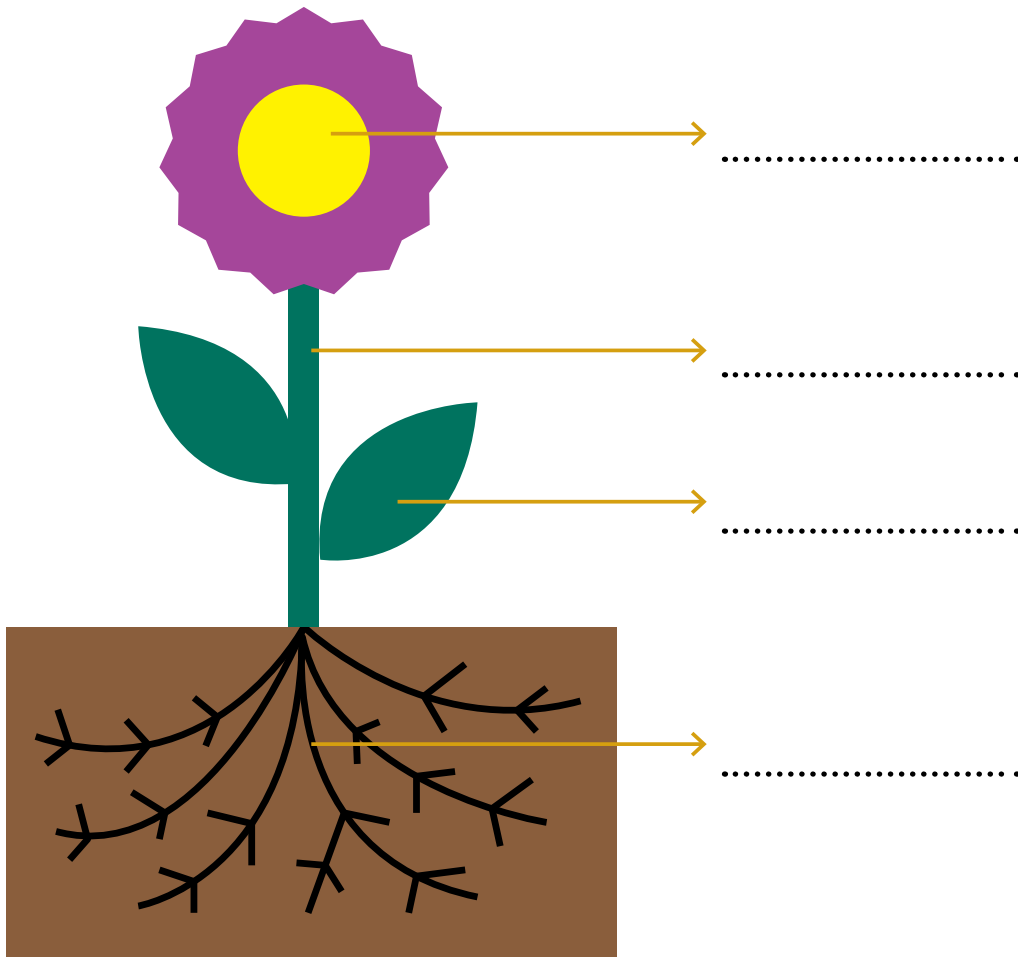


BADGE REQUIREMENT 3: WHAT DO PLANTS NEED TO GROW?



ACTIVITY 1: THE PARTS OF A PLANT

Do you know the different parts of a plant? Fill in the blanks with the words below.



Now you've labelled your plant, do you know what function each of its parts has?

The leaves _____

The stem _____

The roots _____

The flower _____

ACTIVITY EXTRA

Press your own flower

Why not stick a real flower in your activity book here. All you need to do is run out and pick one – such as a daisy, buttercup or dandelion. Make sure it has a leaf or two, and is clean and dry, then stick it in this box. Place a piece of paper over it and something heavy on top, like two or three books. After a few days, the flower will be pressed and should keep its colour. Remember: only pick wild flowers if there are plenty of them, and always ask first if you're picking one from the garden.



ACTIVITY 2: GROW A BEAN

Your first attempt at growing something!

You're going to grow your own bean from a seed, and as you do it you'll see how easy it is. Your seed only really needs two things for it to grow – water, and sunlight. Your leader will show you how to nurture your seed and bring it to life. Fill in this chart to record the changes to your bean as it grows. Why not take a picture of the seed, and then one of your growing bean in its own plant pot.

DAY NUMBER	WHAT I DID AND WHAT I NOTICED

PHOTO EVIDENCE

MY SEED	MY PLANTED BEAN

ACTIVITY EXTRA

Grow a cress head

Make a fun head and grow something at the same time.

- Take some washed-out egg shells, the less broken, the better.
- Draw a face on the shell, with the broken shell at the top, where the head will be.
- Fill the empty shell with damp cotton wool.
- Sprinkle cress seeds on top of the cotton wool.
- Leave on a window sill and keep checking that the cotton wool is damp.
- Soon your face will have its own head of green hair.

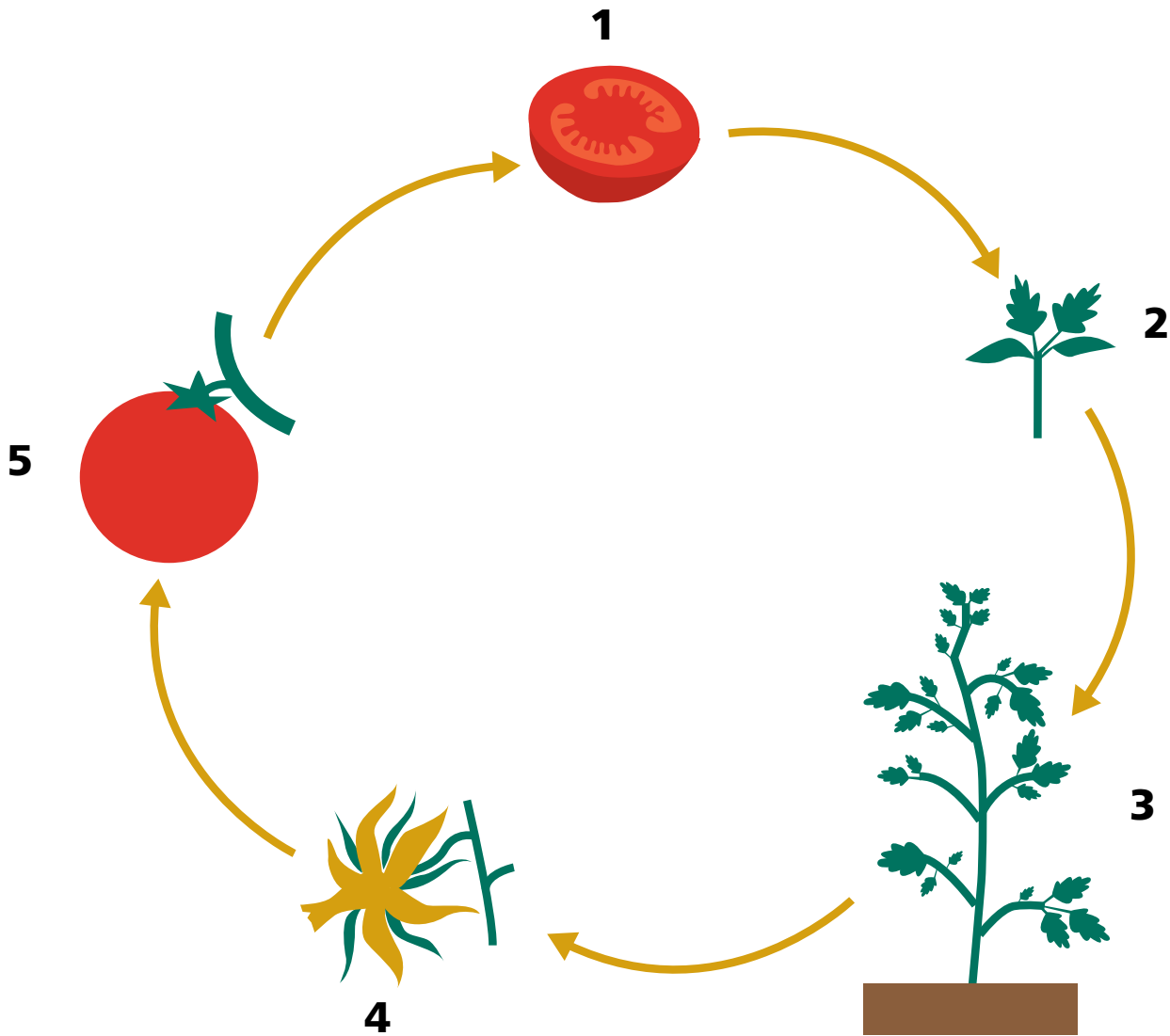


ACTIVITY 3: HOW DOES WATER TRAVEL THROUGH A PLANT?

Your leader is going to show you how water travels through a plant and into its leaves. Why not stick your leaf here when the experiment is finished? Remember, it will be preserved better if you press it like you did with your flower – put a piece of paper on it, then some heavy books for a few days.

ACTIVITY 4: THE GROWING CYCLE

All life is cyclical, which means it goes round and round. A plant doesn't just grow, get old and die. It reproduces before it comes to the end of its own life, and the new seed will follow the same pattern. This is called the 'growing cycle', and your leader is going to help you make your own diagram to show how life goes round and round. Can you think of the five main things that happen to a plant during its growing cycle? Let's begin with the seed:



1. A seed is produced

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

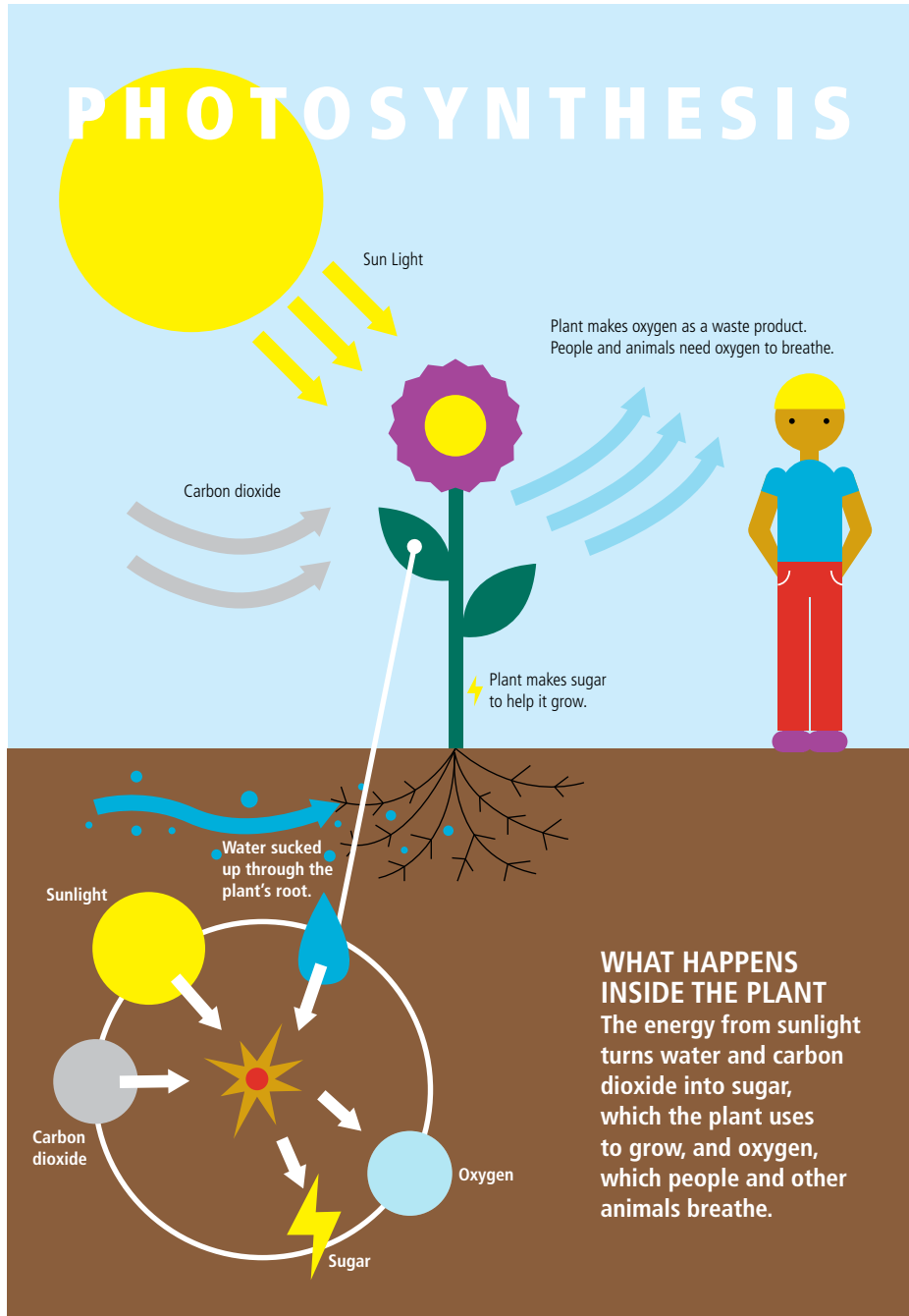
5. _____

Your leader can help you fill in the blanks.



ACTIVITY 5: PHOTOSYNTHESIS

Showing how light is vital for plants to feed.



WHAT HAPPENS INSIDE THE PLANT
 The energy from sunlight turns water and carbon dioxide into sugar, which the plant uses to grow, and oxygen, which people and other animals breathe.

Your leader is going to show you how to do an experiment which will show you what happens if a plant doesn't get its vital sunlight and it can't photosynthesise. Write down here what happened:

A large rectangular area with a dotted yellow border, intended for writing the results of an experiment.

BADGE REQUIREMENT 4:

HELP TO LOOK AFTER A GARDEN OR ALLOTMENT FOR THREE MONTHS.
KEEP A RECORD OF WHAT YOU'VE DONE AND THE CHANGES YOU SEE.

ACTIVITY 1: GARDEN SUPPLIES

What do you need to make your garden grow? Circle the garden tools in this shop. There are ten of them to find. This will help you come up with a list of essentials for any good gardener.



ACTIVITY 2: WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO GROW?

How many of these vegetables can you name... and which do you fancy growing yourself? Your Leader has information about when to plant the seeds for each vegetable.

ACTIVITY 3: GET GROWING!

For the final part of your Gardener Badge, you need to grow something from scratch. With your Leader, work out what is the best vegetable to grow for the time of year, and where you are going to grow it. You could all work together at the HQ, or even grow your own at home. So plant, water, and watch your work grow...

ACTIVITY 4: GARDENING DIARY

Now you've started growing plants, either with your Beaver pack or at home, why not keep a diary to record how it's all going? Ask your Leader to copy as many of the blank forms on the next page as you need, one for each plant, and keep them up to date.

Here's an example:

Plant: Carrots

Date	What I did	Height	Appearance
20.6	Planted seeds in my trough	n/a	n/a
27.6	Watered the soil	5mm	Healthy green shoots appearing
3.7	Watered the soil, thinned out some thin seedlings	2cm	More shoots appearing



MY GARDENING DIARY

Plant: _____

Date	What I did	Height	Appearance

Plant: _____

Date	What I did	Height	Appearance

ACTIVITY EXTRA

Make a scarecrow

You can really go for it with this, just like making a guy, or a puppet. Use whatever old clothes and rags you have to make it as effective as possible for scaring the birds away from your seeds.

Suggestions

1. Make a cross with two pieces of wood by banging one nail in the centre of both pieces to join them together. You may need an adult to help you with this.
2. Dress it up with old clothes, the tattier, the better.
3. Use an old potato sack to scrunch up for the head.
4. Gather dried grass or hay to stick out of the sleeves and the bottoms of the trousers.
5. Find some old gloves to stuff with dried grass, and stick them into the ends of the sleeves.
6. Make a hat – this could be cardboard stapled together, or even newspaper.
7. Anything shiny that you can find, such as broken CDs or odd earrings, make wonderful bird scarers if you tie them onto your scarecrow and let the wind blow them around.
8. Don't forget to name your scarecrow!
9. Bring your scarecrow into the HQ to show your pack, and suggest to your leader that you have a wall of scarecrow pictures.