

Plant

A plant is an organism of the plant kingdom. Plants All plants are multicellular and have cells with cell walls, nuclei, and vacuoles. They manufacture their own food and give off oxygen in the process of **PHOTOSYNTHESIS**, thus representing the primary source of food for animals and providing oxygen for the earth's atmosphere.



Root

A root is the descending axis of a plant, usually growing underground but can also grow in air and water. Roots serve to absorb and conduct water and dissolved minerals, to anchor the plant, and, often, to store food. Some plants have a main root (tap root) that is larger than the branching roots; others have many slender root branches. Root hairs, absorb water and minerals from the soil.



Stem

The stem is the portion of plants that commonly bears leaves and buds. The chief functions of stems are the production and support of leaves and reproductive structures, conduction of water and nutrients and food storage. In some plants, such as cactus, stems also have the specialized functions of storing water and manufacturing food.



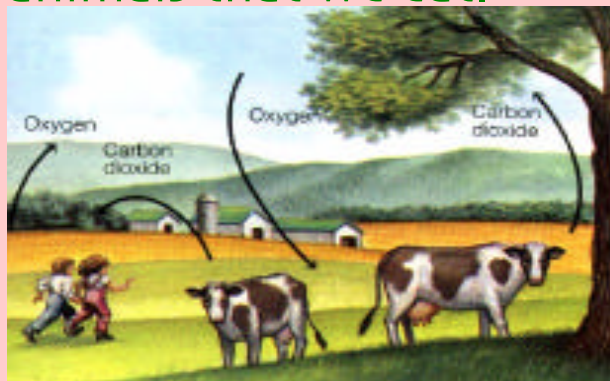
Leaf

A leaf is the chief food-manufacturing organ of plants. The typical leaf consists of a stalk, or petiole, and a thin, flat, expanded portion, or blade. The blade, veined with sap-conducting tubes, consists of upper and lower layers of cells, including cells that control the size of tiny pores (stomata) that are used in gas exchange and transpiration. Between the two layers are cells, rich in chlorophyll, that conduct **PHOTOSYNTHESIS**.



Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis is a process in which green plants use energy from the sun to transform water, carbon dioxide, and minerals into oxygen and organic compounds. Photosynthesis provides us with most of the oxygen we need in order to breathe. We, in turn, exhale the carbon dioxide needed by plants. Plants are also crucial to human life because we rely on them as a source of food for ourselves and for the animals that we eat.



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An
informative
brochure for
Ms. Moralez's
Science class