

# What Are Some Plant Structures?

## Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

**root** [ROOT] structure that absorbs water and minerals from the soil and also anchors the plant to the ground

*Root* begins with the sound at the end of *anchor*. The *root* anchors a plant in the ground.

**stem** [STEM] structure that has tubes to carry water, sugar, and minerals to different parts of the plant. Stems also support the plant.

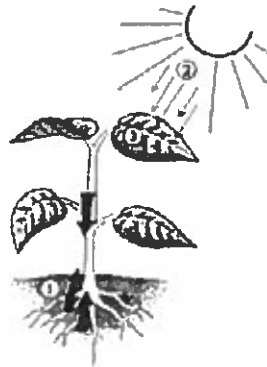
*Stem* and *straw* begin with the same sounds. A straw brings juice to your mouth. A *stem* brings water to different parts of a plant.

**leaf** [LEEF] plant part that uses sunlight to produce sugar for the plant's food

*Leaf* ends with the sound at the beginning of *food*. The *leaf* is where a plant makes its food.

**photosynthesis** [foht•oh•SIN•thuh•sis] the process plants use to make their food. During photosynthesis, plants use energy from the sun to change carbon dioxide and water into sugars and oxygen.

*Photosynthesis* and *photograph* begin the same way. You need light in order to take a photograph. Plants need light in order to do *photosynthesis*.



During photosynthesis, plants use water (1), energy (2), and carbon dioxide from the air to produce sugar, which is stored in the leaves (3).

**chlorophyll** [CLAWE•uh•fihl] what makes leaves appear green. Chlorophyll captures energy from the sun

*Chlorophyll* and *color* begin with the same sound. *Chlorophyll* gives leaves their green color.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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### Science Concepts

**Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.**

1. Nonvascular plants grow close to the ground; they don't have leaves or roots that take in water.
2. Vascular plants have roots, stems, and leaves with tubes that carry water and nutrients.
3. Grasses have fibrous roots, which are thin and branching and grow close to the surface.
4. Carrots have taproots, which are thick and grow deep; taproots store food.
5. The hard, woody stem of a tree is called a trunk; most other plants have soft, green stems.
6. Leaves have veins, or small tubes, that carry food to the flowers, stems, and roots.
7. Photosynthesis takes place in the leaves of a plant.
8. The chlorophyll in a plant takes in energy from the sun for photosynthesis.
9. The plant takes in carbon dioxide from the air for photosynthesis and gives off oxygen.
10. Carbon dioxide and oxygen move through small openings in the plant's leaves.