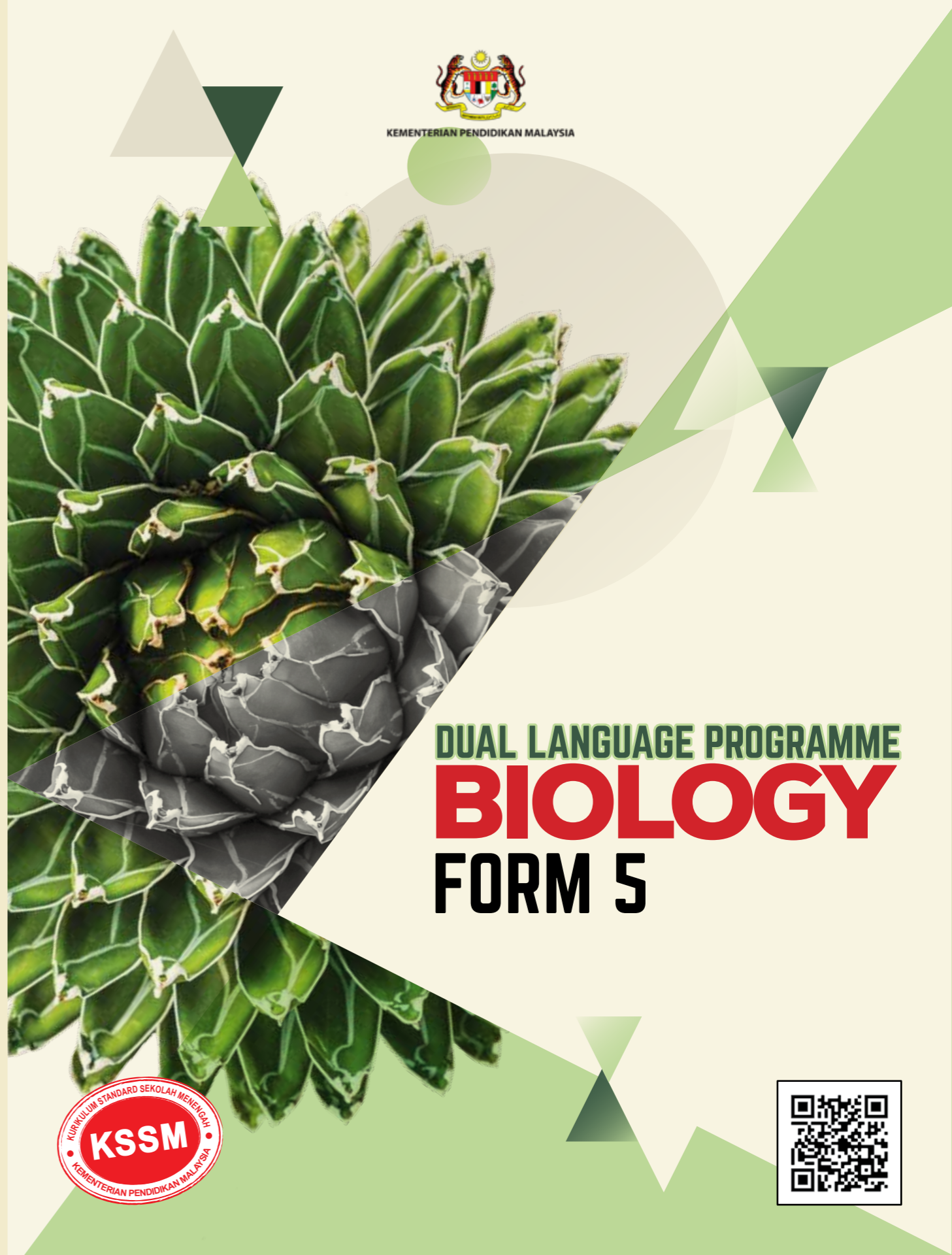




KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN MALAYSIA



**BIOLOGY FORM 5**

DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMME  
**BIOLOGY**  
FORM 5

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KURIKULUM STANDARD SEKOLAH MENENGAH  
DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

# BIOLOGY

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# INTRODUCTION

The **Form 5 Biology Kurikulum Standard Sekolah Menengah (KSSM) Textbook** is written for Form 5 students based on the *Dokumen Standard Kurikulum dan Pentaksiran Tingkatan 5 (DSKP)* prepared by the Curriculum Development Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia. KSSM is developed to cater to the new policies under the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013 - 2025. The KSSM also aims to prepare students to face globalisation based on the 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills. In addition, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teaching and learning approach is also incorporated to develop students' interest in science and technology.

## Special feature

### Formative Practice

Questions to test students' understanding at the end of each subtopic

Innovations in Malaysia related to biology

### Innovation in Malaysia

### Think Smart

Stimulate students' mind to think

Achievements and contributions of scientists in Malaysia related to biology

### MALAYSIAN SCIENTIST

### Career Tips

Provides information on careers related to biology

Applications of biology in daily life

### Bio & Application

### History Corner

Provides historical information related to biology

Provides extra information related to the topics studied

### Bio Exploration

### MEMOR! Tips

Provides tips for students to memorise

Analyses the origin of terms

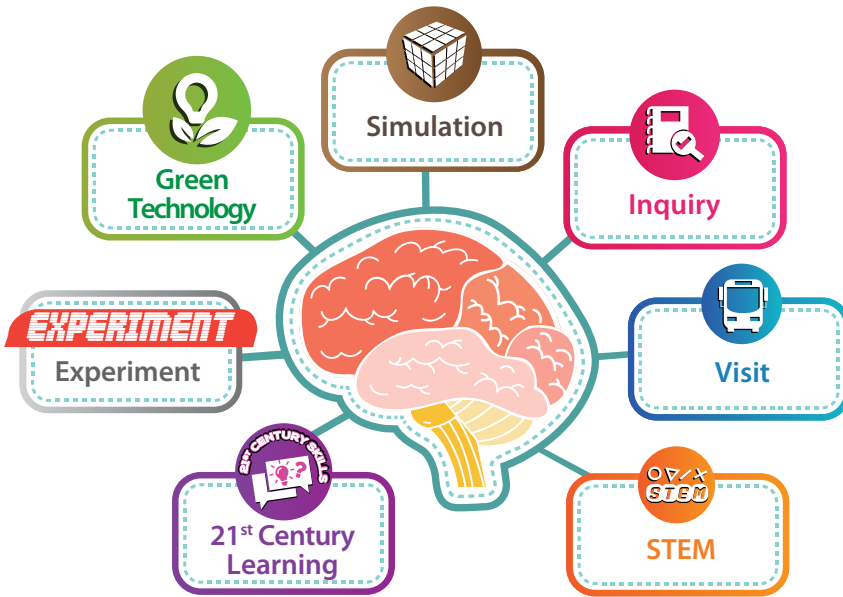
### TERM ANALYSIS

Learning Standards based on the *Dokumen Standard Kurikulum dan Pentaksiran Tingkatan 5 (DSKP)*

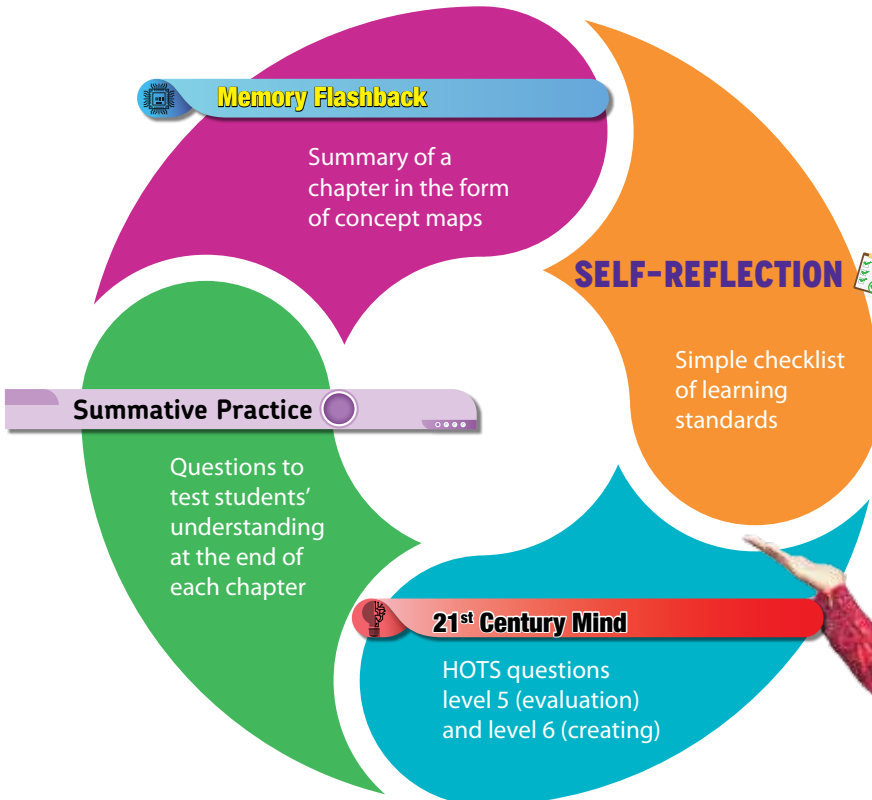
1.2.3



# Types of activities



# Components at the end of a chapter



## Digital components

Download the free QR Code reader application from the *App Store* or *Play Store* to access info, videos, interactive quizzes and answers.



Extra info



Videos with English narrative



Extra activities



Interactive quizzes

## Answers

Surf the following website for answers :  
<http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/Answers.pdf>

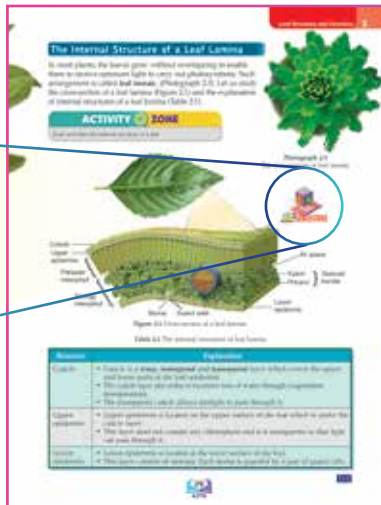


## Steps to scan AR

- 1 Download the *BT Biology Tingkatan 5 AR* application by scanning the QR code below:



- 2 Scan the relevant page with your smartphone or tablet to enjoy the three-dimensional animations.



# Theme

## Physiology of Flowering Plants

# 1

This theme aims to give a basic understanding of plant physiological processes.

This theme introduces tissue organisation, growth, leaf structure and function, nutrition, transportation, response, sexual reproduction in flowering plants and adaptations of plants in different habitats.

- What are the types and parts of tissue involved in plant growth?
- What is the mechanism of stomatal opening and closing?
- What is the importance of macronutrients and micronutrients in plants?
- Can phytoremediation plants control the pollution of water and soil?
- What are the functions of phytohormones in plant responses?
- Where does the formation of pollen grains occur?
- How are plants classified based on their habitats?

Chapter

1

# Organisation of Plant Tissues and Growth

Chapter

Exploration

- Organisation of Plant Tissues
- Meristematic Tissues and Growth
- Growth Curves



Learning Standards



Do You

Know?

- What are the tissues that form plants?
- How does a seed develop into a seedling?
- Can we estimate the age of a plant?
- Why are timbers regarded as our national treasure?
- Why does grass live longer than paddy?



## LED Lighting for Plant Factories

A plant factory is a closed production system set up in a building or controlled facility. All required elements such as light, temperature, carbon dioxide and air humidity are provided artificially.

This system produces a constant, high-quality, high-yield supply of crops throughout the year. The closed structure uses stacked hydroponic growing systems that are covered with LED lighting as the main source of light for plants to undergo photosynthesis.

LED lighting is a better light source because it produces less heat and reduces electrical consumption. The usage of LED lamps also increases the production of nutrients and antioxidants in leaves apart from improving the shape, texture and colour of leaves.



**Photograph 1.1**  
The usage of LED light in a plant factory



### Keywords



- ▶ Pectin
- ▶ Growth curve
- ▶ Lignin
- ▶ Primary growth
- ▶ Secondary growth
- ▶ Ground tissues
- ▶ Epidermal tissues
- ▶ Permanent tissues
- ▶ Collenchyma tissues
- ▶ Meristematic tissues
- ▶ Parenchyma tissues
- ▶ Sclerenchyma tissues
- ▶ Sieve tubes
- ▶ Vascular tissue
- ▶ Biennial plant
- ▶ Perennial plant
- ▶ Annual plant
- ▶ Zone of cell elongation
- ▶ Zone of cell division
- ▶ Zone of cell differentiation

# 1.1

## Organisation of Plant Tissues

You have learnt about the levels of organisation in multicellular organisms in Chapter 2 of Form 4. Can you name a few specialised cells in plants?

Figure 1.1 shows the organisation of tissues in plants. A plant consists of two types of tissues, **meristematic tissues** and **permanent tissues**. Meristematic tissues are actively dividing tissues through mitosis. You will learn more about the meristematic tissues in the next subtopic.

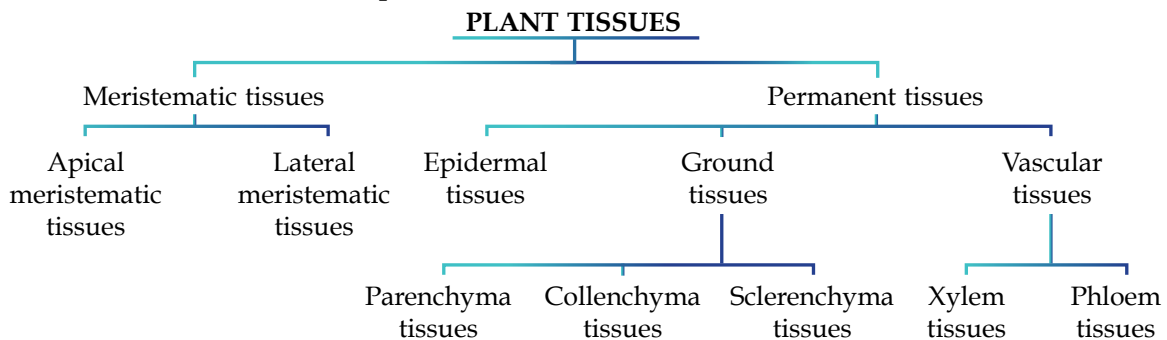


Figure 1.1 The organisation of tissues in plants

### Permanent Tissues

**Permanent tissues** are matured tissues which have experienced or are experiencing differentiation. There are three types of permanent tissues, which include **epidermal tissues**, **ground tissues** and **vascular tissues** (Figure 1.2 and Figure 1.3), each carrying out different functions (Table 1.1).

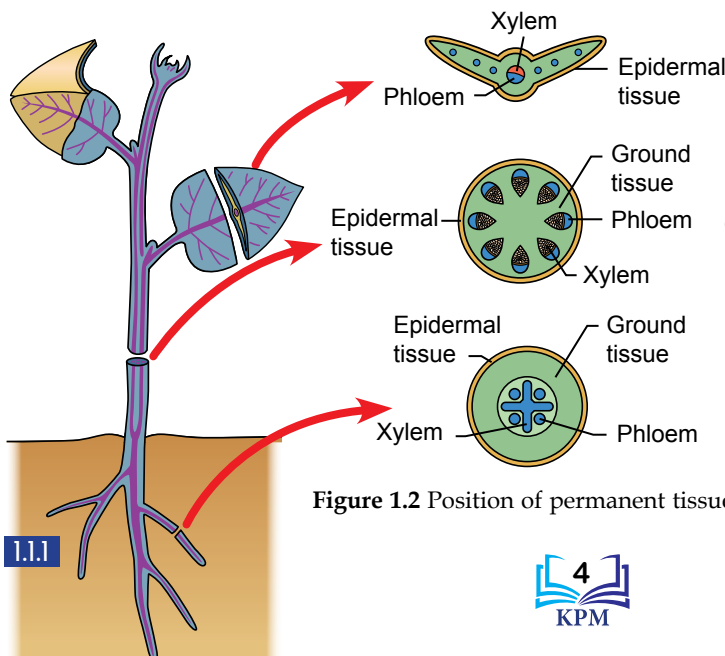


Figure 1.2 Position of permanent tissues

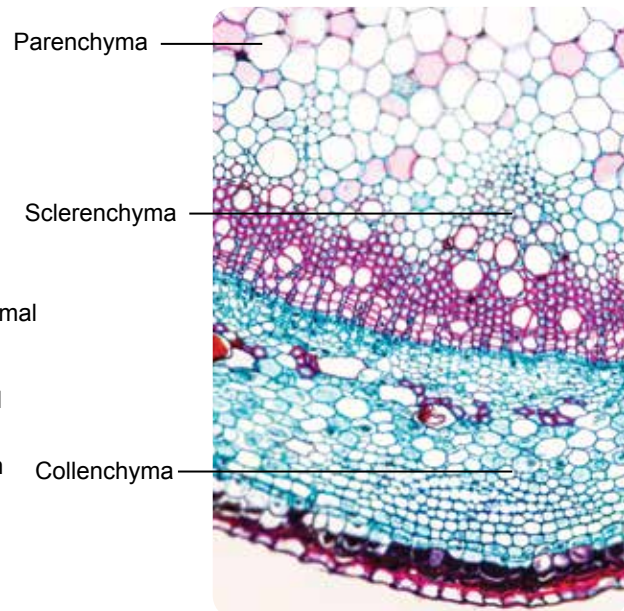


Figure 1.3 Micrograph showing the position of ground tissues in a stem of a plant

Table 1.1 Types of permanent tissues and their functions

Types of permanent tissues		Structure and function
Epidermal tissues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Epidermal tissues</b> layer the outermost surface of stems, leaves and roots of young plants.</li> <li>• Epidermal cell walls which are exposed to the air have a waxy and waterproof layer called <b>cuticle</b>.</li> <li>• The cuticle reduces loss of water through evaporation (transpiration), protects the leaf from mechanical injuries and pathogens.</li> <li>• There are modified epidermal cells according to their functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Guard cells</b> – control the opening of the stoma</li> <li>• <b>Root hair cells</b> – increase the surface area of the root for water and mineral salts absorption</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ground tissues	Parenchyma tissues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parenchyma tissues</b> are simplest living cells and do not undergo differentiation.</li> <li>• They have the thinnest cell walls.</li> <li>• Parenchyma tissues are always in a turgid state providing support and maintaining the shape of herbaceous plants.</li> <li>• Involved in photosynthesis, help in the storage of starch and sugar, and involved in gaseous exchange.</li> <li>• Involved in the repair and regeneration of plant tissue as well as in the vascular system.</li> </ul>
	Collenchyma tissues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Collenchyma tissues</b> are made of living cells which mature into cells that are flexible.</li> <li>• Have cell walls made of <b>pectin</b> and <b>hemicellulose</b>.</li> <li>• Their cell walls are thicker than the parenchyma tissues.</li> <li>• Provide mechanical support and elasticity to plants.</li> </ul>
	Sclerenchyma tissues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sclerenchyma tissues</b> consist of dead cells when they are matured.</li> <li>• Their cell walls are the thickest among the three ground tissues.</li> <li>• Provide support and mechanical strength to the parts of matured plants. These tissues also help in the transport of water and nutrients in plants.</li> </ul>
Vascular tissues	Xylem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Xylem</b> is made up of dead cells without the <b>cytoplasm</b>.</li> <li>• The cell wall of xylem contains lignin.</li> <li>• Consists of xylem vessels that are elongated, hollow and connected to each other from its roots to the leaves.</li> <li>• This enables xylem to transport water and mineral salt to all parts of a plant.</li> </ul>
	Phloem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Phloems</b> are made of companion cells and sieve tubes.</li> <li>• Made of living cells, which is the sieve tubes with the presence of cytoplasm.</li> <li>• The sieve tubes do not have any organelles such as nucleus and ribosome as they decompose at maturity stage.</li> <li>• Phloems consist of sieve tubes arranged from end to end forming elongated and continuous tube structures.</li> <li>• Phloems transport sugars produced from the photosynthesis from the leaves to storage organs such as roots, fruits and tubers.</li> </ul>

# Formative Practice

1.1

1. State an example of cell modified from epidermal cells.
2. Explain the differences of parenchyma, collenchyma and sclerenchyma tissues.
3. How is the structure of xylem adapted to its functions?

## 1.2

## Meristematic Tissues and Growth

**H**ave you observed the development of a plant from a seedling to an adult plant? (Photograph 1.2). Which part of the plant grows first? There are undifferentiated living tissues in plants which are responsible for plant growth. These tissues are known as **meristematic tissues**. Figure 1.4 shows the types of meristematic tissues.

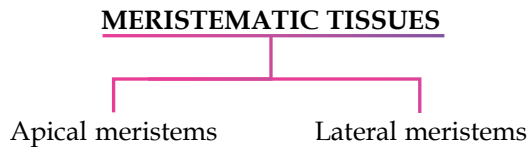


Figure 1.4 Types of meristematic tissues

Apical meristem tissues are located at the tips of plant shoots and roots, whereas lateral meristem tissues consist of vascular cambium and cork cambium (Figure 1.5).



Photograph 1.2 The growth of seedlings

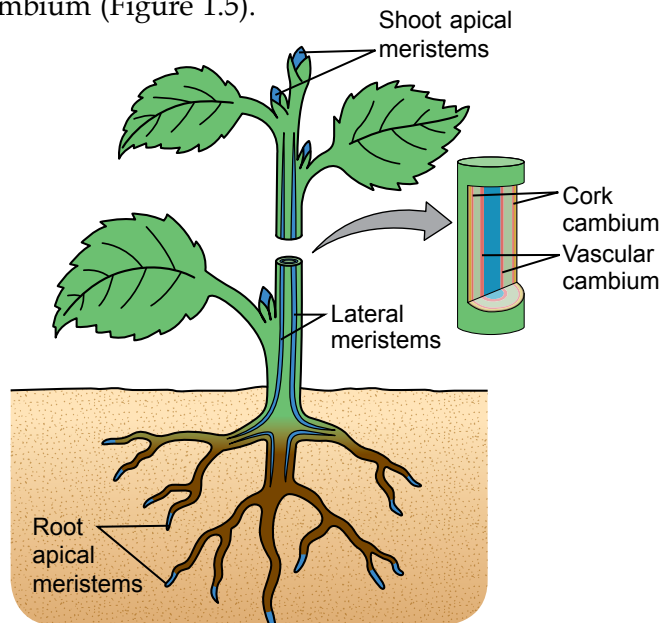


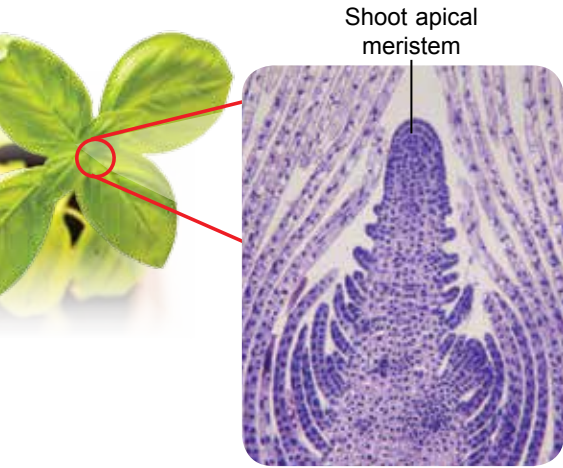
Figure 1.5 Apical meristems and lateral meristems



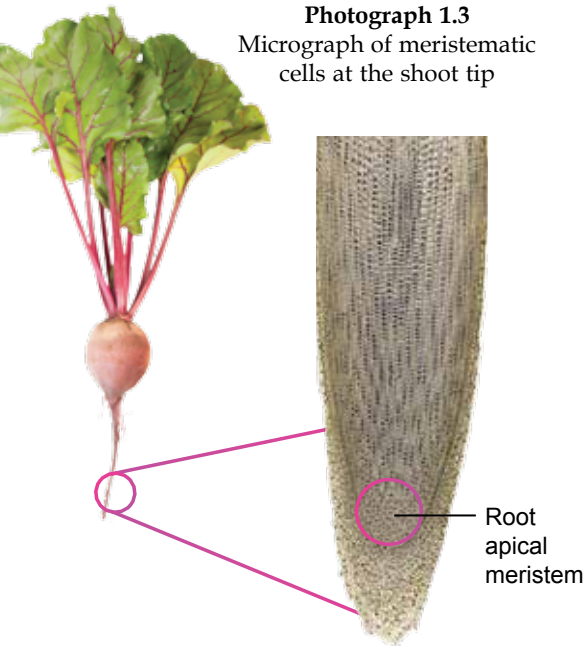
The changes in organisms which start from the zygote stage to an adult is known as **growth** and **development**. In Form 4, you have learnt about the growth in humans and animals. Can you state the definition of growth?

## Zone of Cell Growth

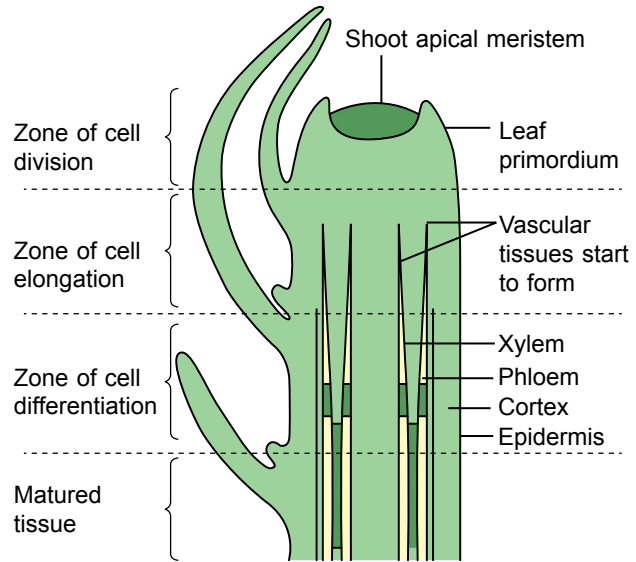
The tips of shoots and roots can be divided into three zones of cell growth, which are the **zone of cell division**, the **zone of cell elongation** and the **zone of cell differentiation** (Figure 1.6 and Figure 1.7). The growth that happens in these zones is the **primary growth** for plants (Table 1.2).



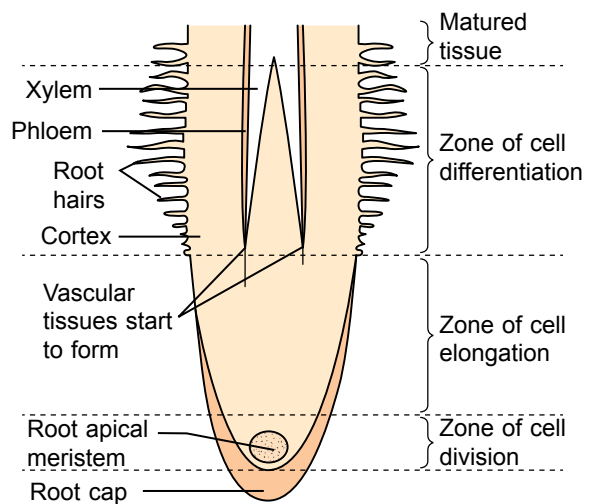
**Photograph 1.3**  
Micrograph of meristematic cells at the shoot tip



**Photograph 1.4**  
Micrograph of meristematic cells at the root tip

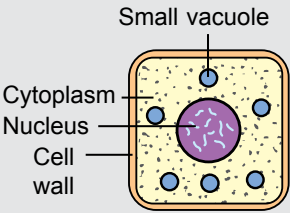
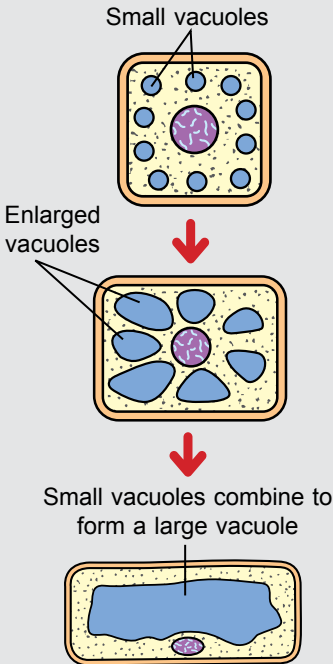


**Figure 1.6** The zone of cell growth at the shoot tip



**Figure 1.7** The zone of cell growth at the root tip

Table 1.2 The zones of cell growth

1. Zone of cell division	2. Zone of cell elongation	3. Zone of cell differentiation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>zone of cell division</b> takes place at the apical meristems which consists of actively dividing meristem cells through mitosis (Figure 1.8).</li> <li>The increase of the number of cells causes the elongation of the plant stem.</li> <li>When new cells are forming, the cells formed previously are pushed to the zone of cell elongation.</li> </ul>  <p><b>Figure 1.8</b> Meristem cell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>zone of cell elongation</b> consists of cells that are increasing in size.</li> <li>The increase in size happens through water diffusion by osmosis and the absorption of nutrients into the cells and stored in the vacuoles.</li> <li>Small vacuoles fuse to form a large vacuole. This process is known as <b>vacuolation</b>.</li> <li>The diffused water exerts pressure against the cell walls which pushes, elongates and widens the cells (Figure 1.9)</li> </ul>  <p><b>Figure 1.9</b> Cell elongation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>zone of cell differentiation</b> consists of differentiating cells that differentiate once they have reached their maximum size.</li> <li>Cells differentiate to form <b>permanent tissues</b> such as epidermis, cortex, xylem and phloem.</li> <li>The cells change their shapes and structures to become specialised cells with specific functions.</li> <li>For example, epidermal cells in leaves differentiate and form guard cells that control the opening of stoma. Other than that, epidermal cells in roots differentiate and form root hair cells.</li> </ul>

## Activity 1.1



### Aim

To prepare microscope slides of zone of cell division, zone of cell elongation and zone of cell differentiation

### Materials

Mung green beans, aceto-orcein stain, acetic acid, distilled water, ethanol

### Apparatus

Knife, glass slide, cover slip, light microscope, dropper, mounting needle

### Procedure

1. Soak the mung green beans overnight. Transfer the mung green beans into a cotton-filled container for three to five days to allow the growth of the radicle which will then form the root.
2. Cut the end of the roots about 10 mm and soak them in a mixed solution of 25% acetic acid and 75% ethanol for 30 seconds. This solution will kill the root cells but maintain their structures.
3. Using a knife, obtain a longitudinal section of a root cutting.
4. Wash the longitudinal section of the root cutting by using distilled water.
5. Place the cutting in a drop of distilled water on the glass slide and close it with the cover slip.
6. Carry out the staining technique using aceto-orcein stain for 30 seconds to 1 minute to stain the chromosomes.
7. Observe the slide using a microscope starting with the low power objective lens and followed by the high power objective lens.
8. Draw and label the cell division zone, cell elongation zone and cell differentiation zone observed. Record the power of magnification that have been used.

### CAUTION

Be careful when using a knife.

### Bio Exploration



Aceto-orcein stain can be replaced with aceto-carmine to stain the chromosomes so it can be seen clearly during observation of the mitotic phases.

### Discussion

1. What are the zones that can be observed at the tip of a seedling radicle?
2. Describe the shapes and structures of the cells that can be observed in between the zones of the seedling radicle.

### Bio Exploration



Oh my, how Hiro has grown. Is the growth process of animals the same as in plants, brother?

No, it is not the same. The growth of animals occur throughout their body. The growth of plants is more likely to occur in the parts that contain meristematic tissues



## Types of Growth

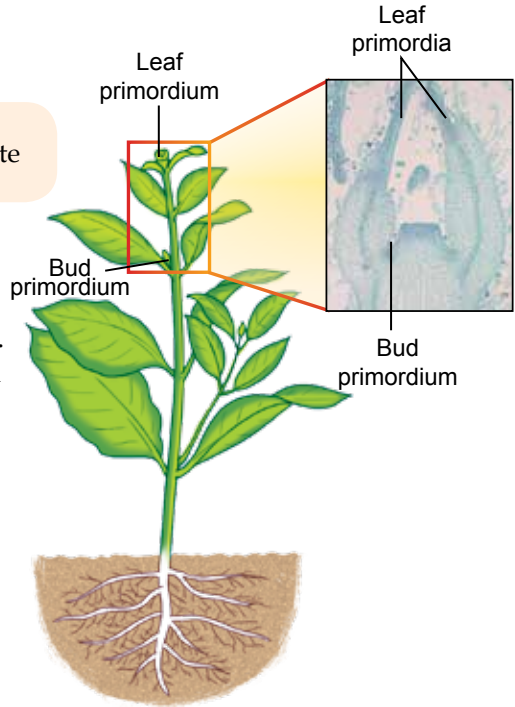
There are two types of growth that occur in plants, namely **primary growth** and **secondary growth**.

### Primary Growth

**Primary growth** is the growth that occurs after germination and it takes place in all plants to elongate their stems and roots.

This growth takes place in the **apical meristems** at the **shoot tips** and **root tips**. Primary growth starts when the meristem cells in the zone of cell division of apical meristems are actively dividing. This is followed by elongation and differentiation of the cells.

At the shoot tips, **leaf primordia** and **shoot primordia** will grow to form new leaves and shoots (Figure 1.10). This enables the plants to increase in height. At the root tips, the **root cap** will become exhausted when they penetrate the soil. This causes the cells of the root cap to be replaced by the meristem cells.

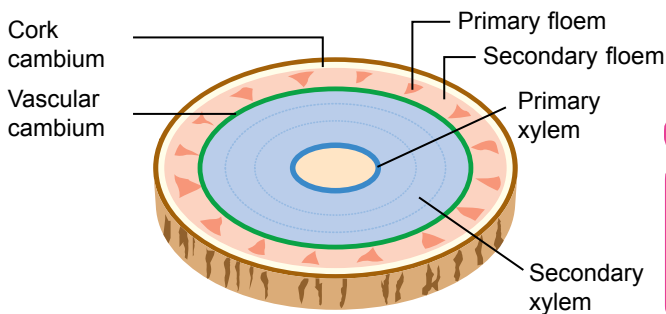


**Figure 1.10**  
Primary growth at the shoot tips

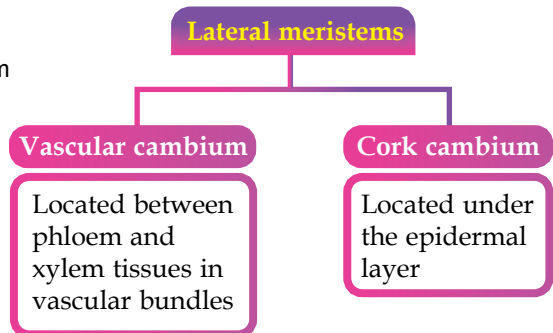
### Secondary Growth

**Secondary growth** occurs mainly in eudicots and a small number of monocots (shrub) to increase the circumference or diameter of plant stem and root (Figure 1.11).

Can you identify eudicots that go through primary growth only? For non-woody plants such as herbaceous plants, secondary growth does not happen. Secondary growth results from the division of lateral meristem cells located in the stem (Figure 1.13 and Figure 1.14) and root. **Lateral meristems** consist of **vascular cambium** and **cork cambium** (Figure 1.12).



**Figure 1.11** Cross section of eudicot stem that shows secondary growth



**Figure 1.12** Types of lateral meristems

## Secondary Growth at the Stem

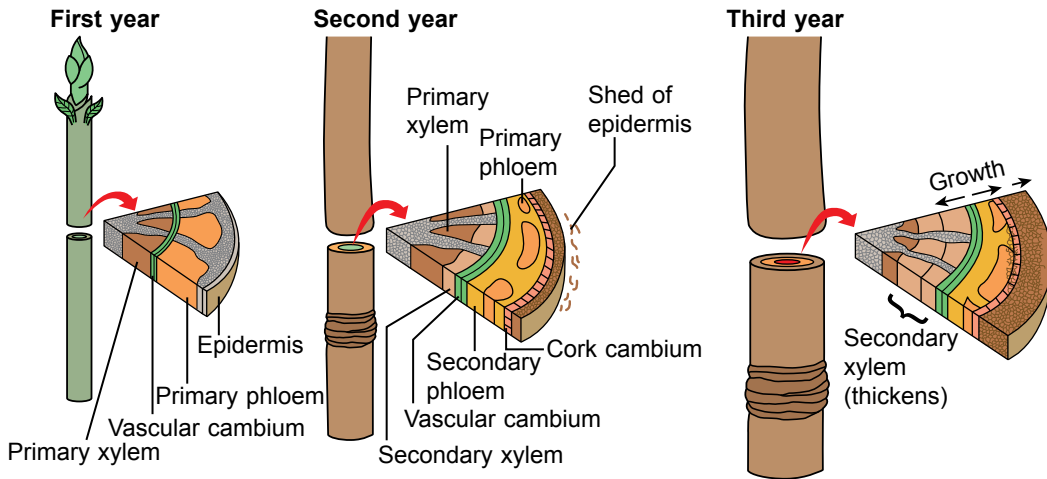


Figure 1.13 Cell divisions at vascular cambium and cork cambium during secondary growth

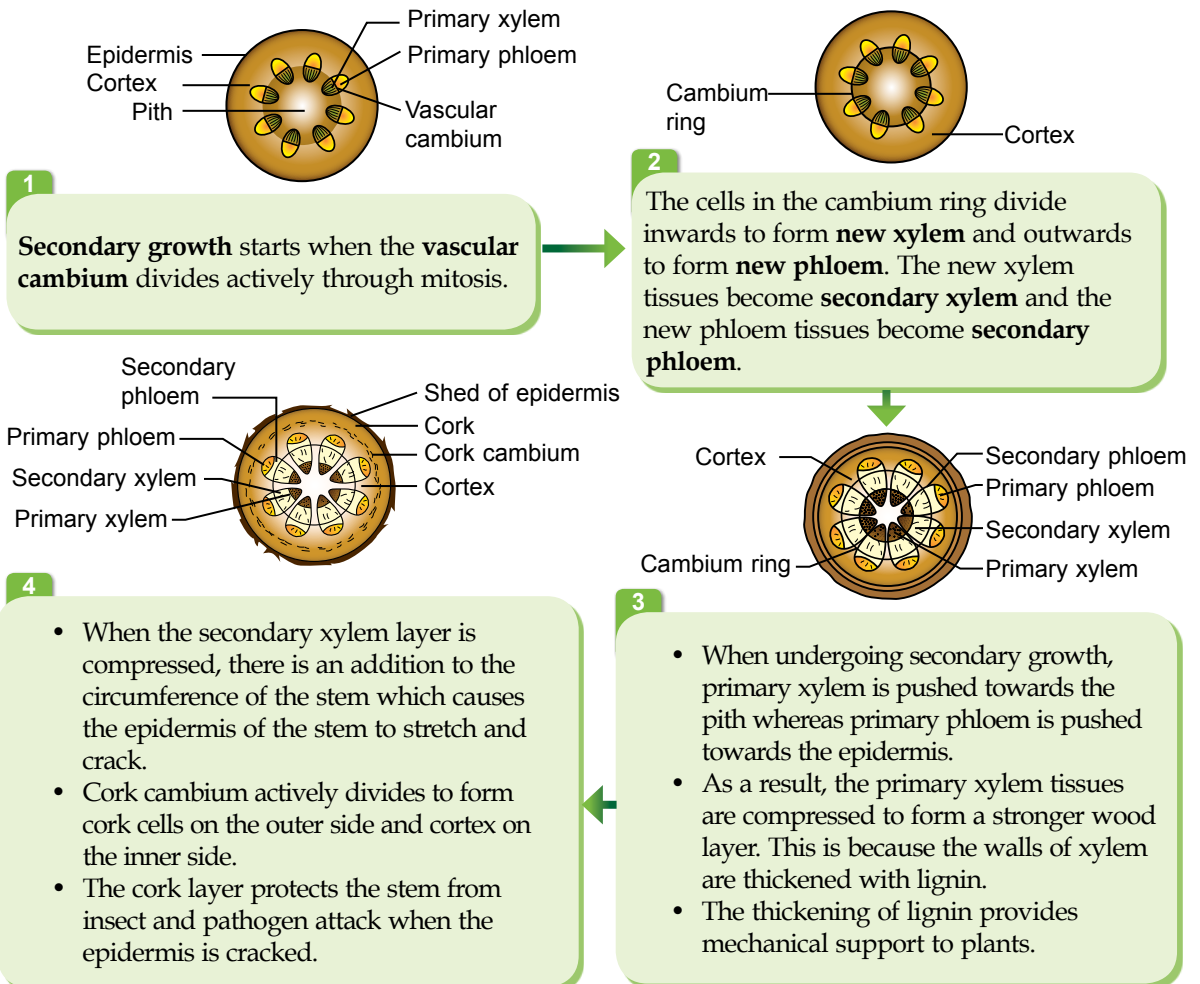
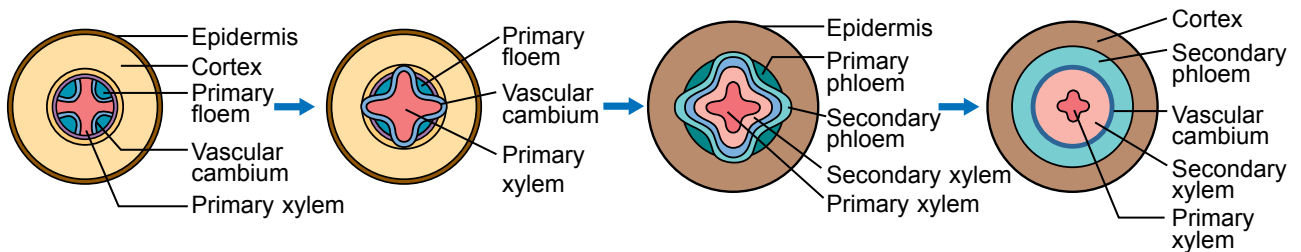


Figure 1.14 Secondary growth at the stem

## Secondary Growth at the Root

The root of plants also undergoes secondary growth in order to increase the **circumference of the root**. The secondary growth process at the root is the same as the secondary growth of a eudicot stem (Figure 1.15).



- **Vascular cambium** cells divide actively and combine to form a complete ring.
- The cells in the cambium ring divide inwards to form **secondary xylem** and outwards to form **secondary phloem**.

- Due to the vascular cambium activity, the root becomes thicker.
- The **cork cambium** located under the epidermis divides actively to form cork cells. The cork cells provide protection to the root tissues.

Figure 1.15 Secondary growth at the root

### Bio Exploration

The age of plants living in temperate climate can be determined based on the annual growth rings in the stem. This is because secondary growth happens at different rates according to seasons. In spring, when there is enough water supply and sunlight, the secondary xylem formed is bigger and the wall is thinner. Therefore, the xylem tissues formed in this season are brighter in colour. The growth is unsuitable in summer, causing the formation of secondary xylem to be smaller, with thicker walls. Therefore, the xylem tissues that are formed are darker in colour (Photograph 1.5).



Photograph 1.5 Formation of secondary xylem in spring and summer

## Secondary Growth of Monocots

Even though most monocots do not undergo secondary growth, some do, such as *Draceana* sp., *Aloe* sp. and *Agave* sp. (Photograph 1.6).



Photograph 1.6 Monocots that undergo secondary growth

## The Necessity of Primary Growth and Secondary Growth

### The necessity of primary growth:

- Allows maximum **elongation of plants** to absorb sunlight for photosynthesis
- Primary phloem can transport the products of **photosynthesis** from the leaves to other parts of the plants.
- Primary xylem can transport **water** and **mineral salts** from the soil via the roots to the leaves.
- Primary xylem provides **support** to herbaceous or young plants.

### The necessity of secondary growth:

- Provides **stability** to plants by increasing the stem and root diameters to suit the height of plants
- Provides **mechanical support** to plants
- Produces more **xylem** and **phloem** tissues
- Produces xylem and phloem tissues continuously to replace **old** and **damaged** xylem and phloem tissues
- Produces **stronger** and **thicker bark** to provide protection to the plants from excessive water loss, physical injuries and pathogen infections
- Able to **live longer** by increasing the chances of seed production and reproduction

## Activity 1.2



### Aim

To gather information on the necessity of primary and secondary growth

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Gather information about the necessity of primary and secondary growth from a variety of media such as reference books, magazines, pamphlets and the internet.
3. Discuss and present the information that you have gathered in the form of a folio according to the following format:
  - (a) Title
  - (b) Introduction
  - (c) Aim
  - (d) Discussion encompassing the following aspects:
    - (i) the necessity of primary growth in terms of height, support and transportation
    - (ii) the need of secondary growth to increase support and transportation
    - (iii) the importance of plants undergoing secondary growth economically
  - (e) Photographs, figures, tables and relevant graphics
  - (f) Conclusion
  - (g) Source of reference

## Activity 1.3



### Aim

To gather information about the types of monocots that undergo anomalous secondary growth

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Divide the areas in your school to a few small groups.
3. Each group has to identify two types of monocots that undergo anomalous secondary growth in their respective areas.
4. Identify the characteristics of the plants.
5. Obtain pictures of the identified plants.
6. Prepare a report about this field research.
7. Present the findings of your group.



## Comparison between Primary Growth and Secondary Growth in Eudicots

The comparisons between primary growth and secondary growth in eudicots can be made based on the aspects shown in Table 1.3.

**Table 1.3** Comparison between primary growth and secondary growth in eudicots

Similarities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both growths can increase the size of the plants permanently.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both growths occur in woody plants.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both growths involve cell division by mitosis</li> </ul>		
Differences		
Primary growth	Aspect	Secondary growth
Apical meristem	<b>Meristem tissue involved</b>	Lateral meristem (vascular cambium and cork cambium)
Occurs on stems and roots in younger regions of the plant	<b>Parts of the plant that undergo growth</b>	Occurs when primary growth has ceased on matured stems and roots
Growth occurs longitudinally	<b>Direction of growth</b>	Growth occurs radially
Increases the length of stems and roots of plant	<b>Growth effects</b>	Increases the thickness or circumference of stems and roots of plant
Epidermis, cortex and primary vascular tissues (primary xylem and primary phloem)	<b>Tissues and structures formed</b>	Bark, periderm (cork cambium and cork tissues), lenticels and secondary vascular tissues (secondary xylem and secondary phloem)
Do not have woody tissues	<b>Presence of woody tissues</b>	Have woody tissues
Thin	<b>Thickness of bark</b>	Thick
Absence of annual growth rings	<b>Presence of annual growth rings</b>	Presence of annual growth rings at the plant stem

Flowering plants (Angiosperms) can be classified into monocotyledons and eudicotyledons. Both groups differ in terms of pollen structure, number of cotyledons, type of root, leaf venation and vascular bundle arrangement. Eudicotyledons are the largest group in flowering plants and consist of various species. Some eudicots can undergo secondary growth allowing them to grow tall and live for hundreds of years.

## The Economic Importance of Plants that Have Undergone Secondary Growth

Plants that undergo secondary growth have high economic values because they can produce timber such as *Shorea* sp. (meranti) and *Balanocarpus* sp. (cengal).



Houseboat

- Plants that undergo secondary growth have strong and hard woods which are suitable to be used as structures for houseboats, furniture, fences, doors and others.
- The presence of annual rings makes furniture look attractive and they can be made as decorative items.



Furniture

- The woods and barks of some plants such as *Hopea* sp. (merawan) and meranti can produce **resin** and **oil**. The substances can be commercialised as **varnish**, **adhesive substance**, **perfume** and **medicine**.

- Flowering plants can be made as decorative plants.
- Commercialised **fruits** such as mangoes and mangosteen, are products of plants that have undergone secondary growth and they are able to generate income as well as boost **economic growth**.




Fruits



Perfume

Photograph 1.7 The uses of plants that undergo secondary growth

**ICT**



Example of Secondary Plants in Malaysia

**Info** [bukuteksksm.my/Biologi/T5/Ms16](http://bukuteksksm.my/Biologi/T5/Ms16)

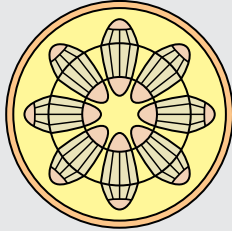
### ACTIVITY ZONE

Gather information about the types and uses of timbers in Malaysia. Present the information in the form of a brochure.

# Formative Practice

## 1.2

1. Name the **three** zones of cell growth.
2. The figure below shows a cross-section of a plant stem that undergoes secondary growth.



- (a) Label the primary xylem, primary phloem, secondary xylem and secondary phloem.
  - (b) Explain the formation of secondary xylem and secondary phloem.
3. Why is secondary growth important to plants?

4.

Secondary growth supports primary growth.



Using your knowledge in biology, support the above statement.

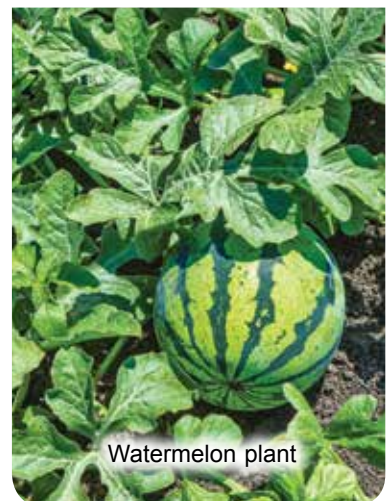
# 1.3 Growth Curves

## Types of Plants Based on Life Cycles

Plants can be classified based on their life cycles, which are **annual**, **biennial** and **perennial plants**.

### Annual Plants

**Annual plants** are plants that have only one life cycle for a season or a year. These plants usually die after completing their biological cycle which starts from germination and ends with flowering or producing seeds. Examples of annual plants are **paddy**, **pumpkin** and **watermelon** plants (Photograph 1.8).



Photograph 1.8 Examples of annual plants

## Biennial Plants

**Biennial plants** refer to plants which take two years with two seasons of growth to complete their life cycle. The first growth season is the **vegetative growth** which is the growth of roots, leaves and stem structures whereas the second growth season is **reproduction**. Most of the biennial plants grow in temperate regions.

After going through vegetative growth, these plants briefly stop the growth process during winter. During spring and summer, the growth continues as preparation for reproduction by flowering. The plants produce fruits and seeds and eventually the plants will die. Examples of biennial plants are **cabbage**, **carrot** and **silver cock's comb**.



Photograph 1.9  
Silver cock's comb plant

## ACTIVITY ZONE

Identify the types of plants in your school area based on their life cycles. Obtain the pictures of the plants and record them in your science book.



Photograph 1.10 Cabbage



Photograph 1.11 Carrots

## Perennial plants

**Perennial plants** refer to plants which live more than two years. These plants have longer lifespan depending on the species and conditions. Perennial plants can be classified into two categories, which are **woody perennial plants** and **herbaceous perennial plants**. Most of these plants are able to flower and bear fruits many times throughout their lives. These plants have structures that are adaptable to their surroundings and temperature change. Examples of perennial plants are **grass**, **hibiscus plant** and **mango plant**.



Photograph 1.12  
Hibiscus plant

## Growth Curve in Plants

In Form 4, you have learnt about the growth curve of humans and animals with exoskeleton. The growth curve of most organisms are sigmoid curve. What is the shape of the growth curve of plants?

### The growth curve of annual plants

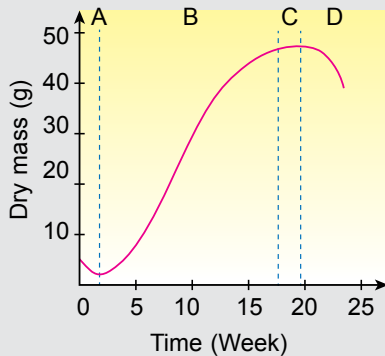


Figure 1.16

- The growth curve is a **sigmoid curve** (Figure 1.16).
- **Stage A: Decreasing dry mass**  
Food stored in the **cotyledon** is used for germination before the leaves emerge to carry out photosynthesis.
- **Stage B: Increasing dry mass**  
The rate of growth increases rapidly. This is because the plant has carried out photosynthesis.
- **Stage C: Constant dry mass**  
-The rate of growth is zero.  
-Plant is **matured** at this stage.
- **Stage D: Decreasing dry mass**  
Happens slowly because of aging, lower rate of photosynthesis, shedding of leaves and flowers and seed dispersal.

### The growth curve of biennial plants

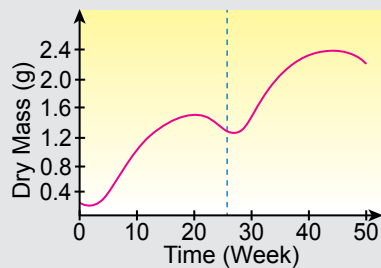


Figure 1.17

- The growth curve has **two sigmoid curves** which are combined (Figure 1.17).
- **First growth season:**  
-Plants produce leaves, photosynthesis takes place.  
-Food is stored in tubers.
- **Second growth season:**  
-The food stored is used to produce flowers and seeds

### The growth curve of perennial plants

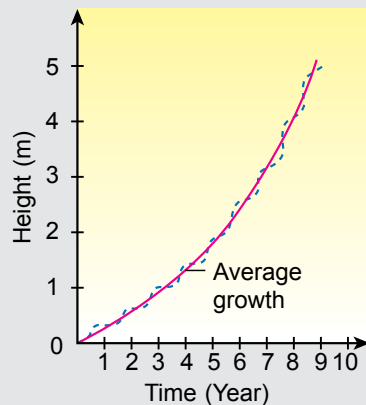


Figure 1.18

- The growth curve is a series of small **sigmoid curves** (Figure 1.18).
- Every year the growth curve is a **sigmoid** curve. Growth occurs throughout the lifespan of the plant.
- The rate of growth is **high** during spring and summer. High light intensity increases the rate of photosynthesis.
- The rate of growth **decreases** in winter.

**Problem Statement**

What is the shape of the growth curve of a corn plant?

**Aim**

To investigate the growth curve of a corn plant.

**Hypothesis**

The growth curve of a corn plant is a sigmoid curve.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** Number of days after planting

**Responding variable:** Dry mass of corn seeds

**Constant variable:** Type of corn seeds

**Material:** 30 corn seeds

**Apparatus:** Nursery box, electronic balance, oven

**Procedure**

1. Prepare 30 corn seeds that had been soaked for at least an hour. In a spacious area, prepare the nursery box.
2. Take three seeds at random.
3. Dry them in the oven at 100 °C for 5 minutes.
4. Weigh the dried seeds one at a time and record their dry mass readings.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the same three seeds until there are no changes in their dry mass readings.
6. Record their dry mass readings in the table of results (day '0'). Obtain the average dry mass reading for the three seeds.
7. Plant the remaining seeds at 30 cm intervals in the nursery box prepared.
8. Water the soil in the nursery box daily.
9. Retrieve and clean any three seedlings from the nursery box every three days.
10. Dry the three seedlings in the oven at 100 °C for 5 minutes and measure their dry mass.
11. Repeat step 10 until there are no changes in their dry mass readings and record the results in a table.
12. Repeat steps 9 to 11 by increasing the time in the oven 10 minutes at a time, for a maximum of 30 minutes, based on the size of the seedling, until day 21.
13. Plot a graph showing the dry mass of corn seedlings against time.

**Results**

Time (Day)	Dry mass of three seeds or seedlings (g)			Average dry mass of seeds or seedlings (g)
	Seed 1	Seed 2	Seed 3	
0				
3				

**Discussion**

1. What is the shape of the growth curve of the corn plant?
2. Explain the growth curve.

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**PRE CAUTIONS**

Ensure the plants obtain enough nutrients, water, air and light.

**Bio Exploration**

The scientific name of corn plant is *Zea mays*.

1.2

## The Effect of Sound Towards Growth in Plants

EXPERIMENT

### Aim

To design an experiment to study the effect of sounds towards growth in plants

**Material:** Five corn seedlings of the same type and size

**Apparatus:** Classical music, heavy metal music, ruler

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Each group needs to design an experiment to study the effect of sound towards the growth of corn plants.
3. Build a hypothesis and determine the variables for this experiment.
4. Plan and carry out the experiment by exposing the seedlings to different types of music.
5. Record and discuss the results of the experiment. Present the data in the form of a graph.
6. Write a report of the experiment and submit it to your teacher.

## Activity 1.4

O.V.X  
STEM

### Aim

Design an auxanometer to measure the rate of plant elongation

### Material

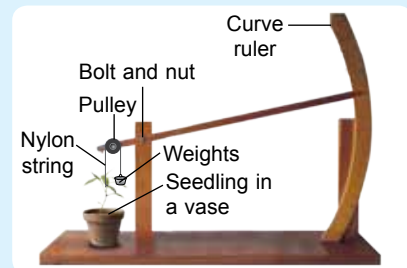
Seedling in a vase

### Apparatus

Board, bolts and nuts, nylon strings, weights, curve ruler, pulley

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Each group needs to design an auxanometer.
3. Measure the rate of plant elongation using the built auxanometer.
4. Record and discuss the results obtained. Present the data in the form of a graph.
5. Present the findings of your group.



Photograph 1.6 Auxanometer

## Formative Practice 1.3

1. State the classification of plants based on their lifespan.
2. Based on your knowledge in biology, specify the types of plants that are able to survive in extreme surroundings. Discuss.



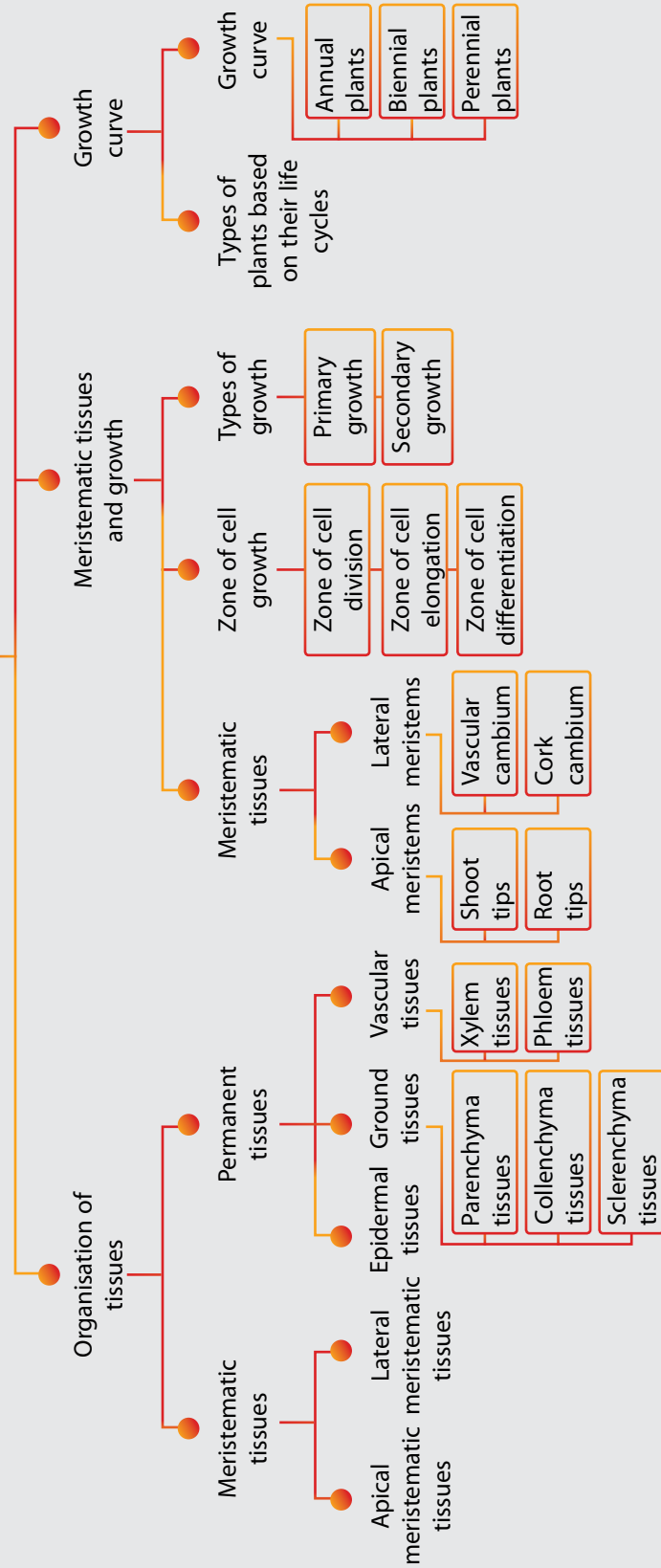
3. In general, the growth curves for three types of plants are a single sigmoid curve or a combination of a few sigmoid series. Why does the growth curve of perennial plants consist of a series of small sigmoid curves?





# Memory Flashback

## Organisation of Plant Tissues and Growth





# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.

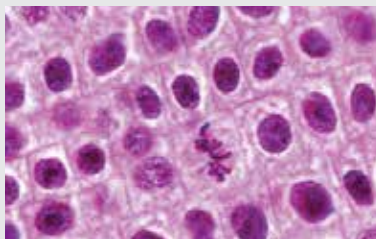


Important concepts	Very good	Try again
The types of plant tissues and their main functions		
The types and parts of tissues involved in growth		
The position of the zone of cell division, zone of cell elongation and zone of cell differentiation in shoots and roots		
The zone of cell division, the zone of cell elongation and the zone of cell differentiation in the seed radicle		
Primary growth and secondary growth		
The importance of primary growth and secondary growth		
The comparison between primary growth and secondary growth in eudicots		
The economic importance of plants that have undergone secondary growth		
The types of plants based on their life cycles		
Growth curve for annual, biennial and perennial plants		

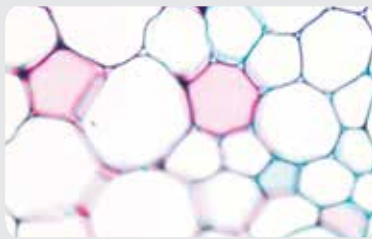
## Summative Practice

1

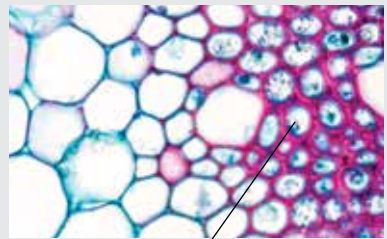
1. Figure 1 shows three examples of tissues which are found in plants.



Tissue A



Tissue B

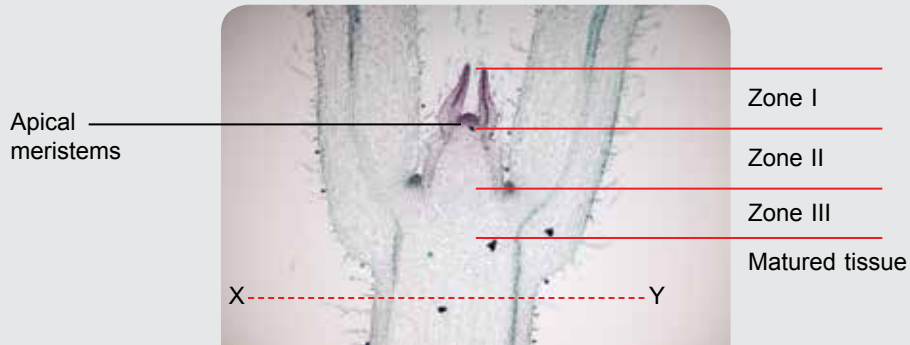


Tissue C

Figure 1

Identify tissue A, tissue B and tissue C. State **one** characteristic and function of each tissue.

2. Figure 2 shows a longitudinal cross-section of a eudicot shoot tip.



**Figure 2**

(a) Name Zone I, Zone II and Zone III.

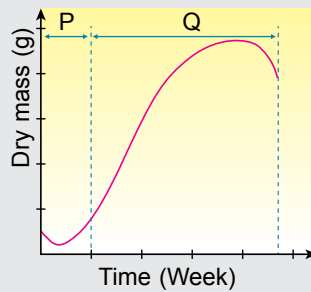
(b) (i) Draw a cell to represent Zone I and Zone II.

(ii) State the differences between the cell in Zone I and cell in Zone II.

(c) Draw a cross-section of the shoot at XY.

(d) After a few years, the plant undergoes secondary growth. Draw a cross-section of the plant stem which has undergone the secondary growth.

3. Figure 3 shows a growth curve of a plant which lives in a temperate climate.

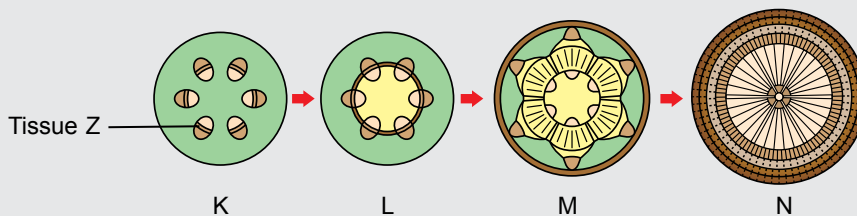


**Figure 3**

(a) Identify the type of plant and state an example of a plant that has the same growth curve in Figure 3.

(b) Why is there a difference in the shape of the growth curve in weeks P and Q?

(c) Figure 4 shows the stages of growth in a eudicot stem.

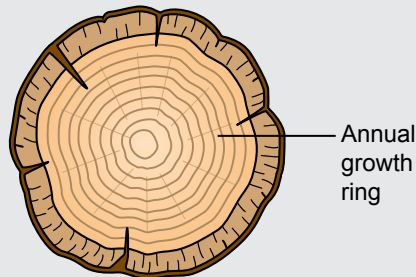


**Figure 4**

- (i) Name tissue Z.
- (ii) Explain the development of tissue Z from stage K to stage L.
- (iii) Predict what would happen to the plant if tissue Z is not formed.



4. (a) Figure 5 shows a cross-section of a plant stem which lives in a temperate climate. The annual growth rings form a combination of dark and bright growth rings.



**Figure 5**

Estimate the age of the plant. Explain the formation of the annual growth rings.



- (b) (i) Based on the statement below, what are the advantages of the plants that undergo secondary growth? Discuss the importance of secondary growth.



Eudicots such as mangosteen undergo primary growth to increase its height and followed by secondary growth to increase the diameter of its stem and roots. Monocots such as grass only undergo primary growth.

- (ii) Why are there only a small number of monocots that undergo secondary growth? Explain.



5. The timber industry in Malaysia is the biggest contributor to the commodities sector, with an export income value of RM23.2 billion in 2017. However, the income in this sector recorded a decrease in 2018 because of the lack of raw materials. Among the initiatives carried out by the government to overcome this problem is by opening acacia forest plantations. In your opinion, why is the acacia plant chosen to resolve the problem?



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

6. The height of fruit trees need to be controlled so that they are not too tall. As a botanist, Mr. Lim suggests to his neighbour to trim the fruit trees in his orchard. Justify Mr. Lim's suggestion based on your knowledge in biology.



## Chapter

# 2

# Leaf Structure and Function

## Chapter

### Exploration

- Structure of a Leaf
- Main Organ for Gaseous Exchange
- Main Organ for Transpiration
- Main Organ for Photosynthesis
- Compensation Point



Learning Standards



## Do You

### Know?

- How are the external structures of a leaf and internal structures of a leaf lamina?
- What is the main organ for gaseous exchange in plants?
- What is the main organ for transpiration?
- What is the main organ for photosynthesis?
- What is meant by compensation point?



## The Changes of Leaf Colour in Four-Season Countries

The colours of leaves depend on the pigment molecules contained in them. Examples of the pigments are chlorophyll, carotenoid and anthocyanin.

The chlorophyll pigment causes the leaf to appear green. In four-season countries, the leaves are green during summer because the light intensity is very high. During autumn and winter, some plants stop making chlorophylls. These chlorophylls are broken down into smaller molecules. Without chlorophyll, other pigments such as carotenoid and anthocyanin will be produced and causing the colours of the leaves to change into yellow and red.



### Keywords



- Lamina
- Petiole
- Palisade mesophyll
- Spongy mesophyll
- Transpiration
- Microbalance
- Herbarium
- Granum
- Thylakoid
- Stroma
- Photolysis
- Compensation point

# 2.1

## Structure of a Leaf

A leaf is the main organ of a plant which carries out photosynthesis. The structure of a leaf can be divided into two parts, which are the **external structure** and the **internal structure**.

### The External Structure of a Leaf

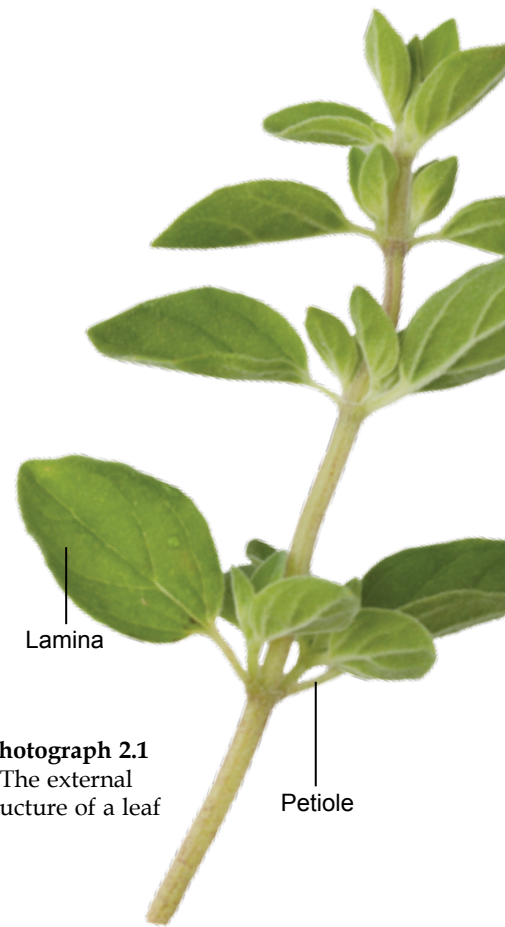
Commonly, the external structure of a green leaf consists of **lamina** and **petiole** (Photograph 2.1).

#### Lamina

- Lamina is the flat, thin, smooth and green part of the leaf.
- Lamina is flat-shaped to provide a wide surface in order to expose the cells containing chloroplasts to the maximum amount of sunlight.
- Lamina is also thin to allow gases involved in photosynthesis to diffuse efficiently in the leaf.

#### Petiole

- Petiole is the leaf stalk that connects the lamina to the stem of the plant.
- The petiole stretches out into the lamina producing a network of middle veins to support the lamina.



**Photograph 2.1**  
The external structure of a leaf

Petiole

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Herbarium is a specimen collection from plants which are preserved through a certain method.

- Prepare a herbarium from various plants available in the area of your house.
- Complete with data such as taxonomy, morphology, ecology and geography of the plants.



**Photograph 2.2**  
Herbarium specimen

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Family          | : Malvaceae  |
| Scientific name | : <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>  |
| Common name     | : Bunga raya   |
| Collector       | : Maisarah Jamalluddin   |
| Sample number   | : 14   |
| Date            | : 9/10/2020  |
| Location        | : Taman Mewah, Perak   |
| Notes           | : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The leaves are light-green.</li><li>• Half of the leaves are jagged upwards.</li><li>• The flowers stand out.</li><li>• The number of flower is one and it is positioned at the end of a long stalk.</li></ul> |

## The Internal Structure of a Leaf Lamina

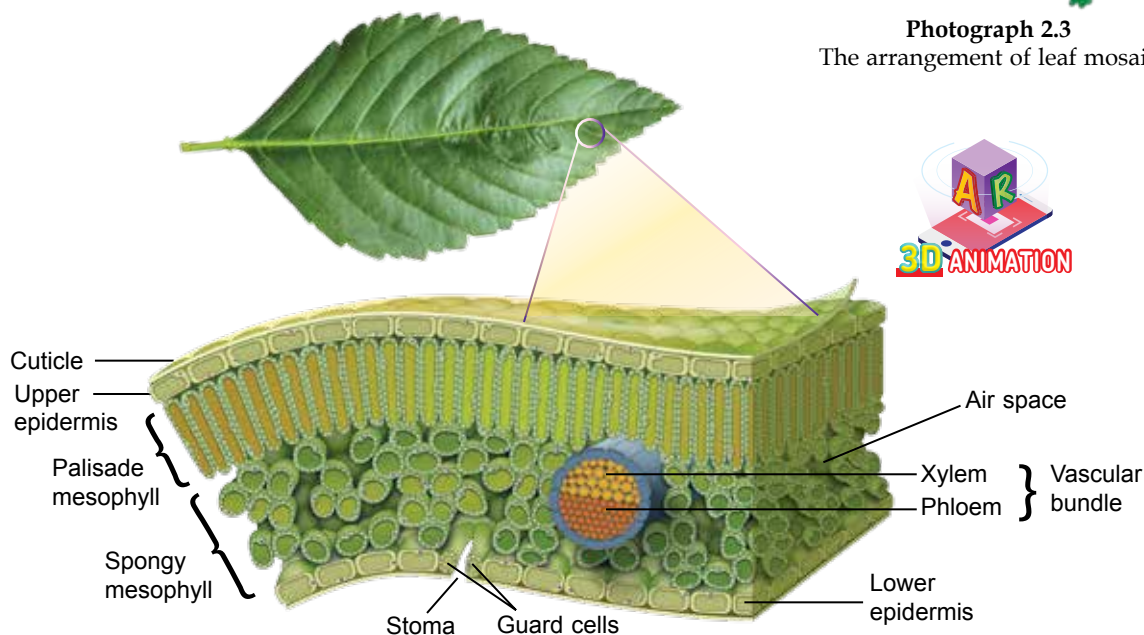
In most plants, the leaves grow without overlapping to enable them to receive optimum light to carry out photosynthesis. Such arrangement is called **leaf mosaic**. (Photograph 2.3). Let us study the cross-section of a leaf lamina (Figure 2.1) and the explanation of internal structures of a leaf lamina (Table 2.1).

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Draw and label the internal structure of a leaf.



**Photograph 2.3**  
The arrangement of leaf mosaic



**Figure 2.1** Cross-section of a leaf lamina

**Table 2.1** The internal structures of leaf lamina

Structure	Explanation
Cuticle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cuticle is a <b>waxy, waterproof</b> and <b>transparent</b> layer which covers the upper and lower parts of the leaf epidermis.</li> <li>The cuticle layer also reduces excessive loss of water through evaporation (transpiration).</li> <li>The transparent cuticle allows sunlight to pass through it.</li> </ul>
Upper epidermis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper epidermis is located on the upper surface of the leaf which is under the cuticle layer.</li> <li>This layer does not contain any chloroplasts and it is transparent so that light can pass through it.</li> </ul>
Lower epidermis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower epidermis is located at the lower surface of the leaf.</li> <li>This layer consists of stomata. Each stoma is guarded by a pair of guard cells.</li> </ul>

Palisade mesophyll	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palisade mesophyll cells are arranged vertically and closely-packed to receive maximum light exposure.</li> <li>These cells are the sites for photosynthesis. Therefore, they contain many <b>chloroplasts</b>.</li> </ul>
Spongy mesophyll	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spongy mesophyll cells are irregular-shaped that increases the internal surface area for gaseous exchange.</li> <li>These cells are loosely arranged and they have many intercellular air spaces.</li> <li>It can ease <b>carbon dioxide</b> and <b>water</b> absorption through the leaves to palisade mesophyll cells during photosynthesis.</li> <li>Spongy mesophyll has less number of chloroplasts than palisade mesophyll.</li> </ul>
Vascular bundle	<p>Xylem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Xylem transports water and mineral salts absorbed from the roots to the leaf.</li> <li>The walls of the xylem are <b>lignified</b> and thickened to provide mechanical support and strength to the plants.</li> </ul> <p>Phloem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phloem transports <b>organic substances</b> produced during photosynthesis from the leaves to other parts of the plants.</li> </ul>

## Activity 2.1



### Aim

To identify the cross-sections of monocot and eudicot leaves

### Apparatus

Prepared slides of the cross-sections of monocot and eudicot leaves, light microscope

### Procedure

1. Observe the prepared slides of the monocot leaf and eudicot leaf using a light microscope.
2. Identify the epidermis tissues, palisade mesophyll tissues, spongy mesophyll tissues, xylem tissues and phloem tissues.
3. Draw and label the cross-sections of the monocot and eudicot leaves as seen through the light microscope.

### Discussion

1. Identify the differences between the structures of monocot and eudicot leaves.
2. Between the monocot and eudicot leaves, which has larger air spaces?

## Formative Practice

2.1

1. Name **two** external structures of a leaf.
2. What is the importance of cuticle in leaves?
3. Name **five** internal structures of a leaf.
4. State the functions of xylem and phloem.



5. The layer of cuticle and upper epidermis is transparent. Justify.
6. Compare the layers of palisade mesophyll and spongy mesophyll.



# 2.2 Main Organ for Gaseous Exchange

## The Necessity of Gaseous Exchange in Plants



Photograph 2.4  
Cactus

Unlike animals that search for their own food, plants on the other hand synthesise their own food through photosynthesis. In order to carry out photosynthesis efficiently, plants need to exchange gases and absorb light. The exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between plants and the surroundings occurs through stomata.

**Stomata** are the pores located on the lower epidermis of the leaf (Photograph 2.5). Each stoma is guarded by a pair of guard cells that controls the opening and closing of the stoma by changing their shapes. The guard cells contain chloroplasts to carry out photosynthesis.

### Bio Exploration

Cacti (Photograph 2.4) in the desert open their stomata only during the night for carbon dioxide. Colder temperature at night can reduce the loss of water.

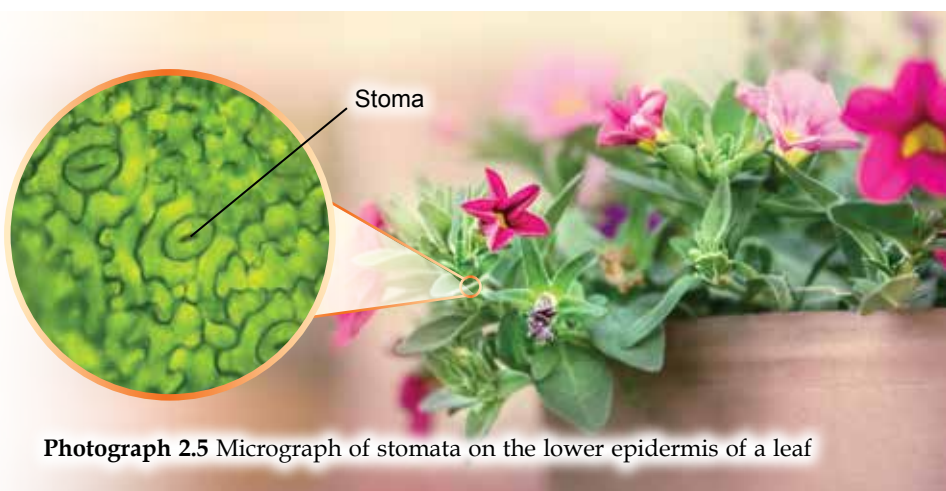
### ICT



Preparation of the microscope slide of guard cells.

<http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/InquiryActivity.pdf>

Activity



Photograph 2.5 Micrograph of stomata on the lower epidermis of a leaf

## The Mechanism of Stomatal Opening and Closing

The mechanism of stomatal opening and closing depends on the conditions of the guard cells whether turgid or flaccid. The condition of the guard cells depends on the **potassium ion ( $K^+$ ) uptake** by the cells or the **sucrose concentration** in the sap of the guard cells (Table 2.2).

Table 2.2 Stomatal opening and closing mechanism

Uptake of potassium ions by guard cells	Sucrose concentration in the guard cell sap
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The accumulation or elimination of potassium ion (<math>K^+</math>) in the guard cells changes the solute potential.</li> <li>This increases or decreases the water potential in the guard cells.</li> <li>Water is diffused out or into the guard cells through osmosis. This condition determines whether the guard cells are turgid or flaccid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During day time or in the presence of light, photosynthesis takes place and produces dissolved sugar (sucrose).</li> <li>During night time or in the absence of light, sugar in the guard cells converts into starch.</li> </ul>

## The Opening of Stoma

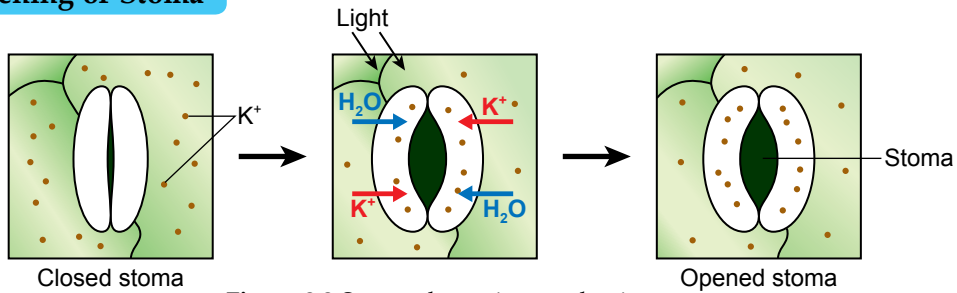


Figure 2.2 Stomatal opening mechanism

### Uptake of potassium ions by guard cells

- The potassium ions enter the guard cells.
- The solute potential in the guard cells increases.
- The water potential in the guard cells decreases.
- The water molecules from the epidermal cells diffuse into the guard cells by osmosis.
- The guard cells become turgid and curve outwards.
- The stoma opens (Figure 2.2).

### Sucrose concentration in the guard cell sap

- In the presence of light, photosynthesis occurs.
- The concentration of sucrose in the guard cells becomes high.
- The water potential in the guard cells decreases.
- The water molecules from the epidermal cells diffuse into the guard cells by osmosis.
- The guard cells become turgid and curve outwards.
- The stoma opens (Figure 2.2).

## The Closing of Stoma

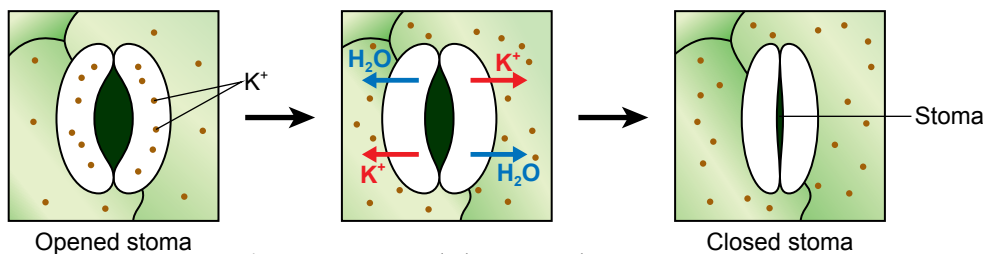


Figure 2.3 Stomatal closing mechanism

### Uptake of potassium ions by guard cells

- The potassium ions move out from the guard cells.
- The solute potential in the guard cells decreases.
- The water potential in the guard cells increases.
- The water molecules diffuse out from the guard cells to the epidermal cells by osmosis.
- The guard cells become flaccid.
- The stoma closes (Figure 2.3).

### Sucrose concentration in the guard cell sap

- In the absence of light, photosynthesis does not occur.
- The sucrose concentration in the guard cells becomes low.
- The water potential in the guard cells increases.
- The water molecules diffuse out from the guard cells to the epidermal cells by osmosis.
- The guard cells become flaccid.
- The stoma closes (Figure 2.3).

## Activity 2.2



### Aim

To design a model to relate the mechanism of stomatal opening and closing to uptake of potassium ions and changes in sucrose concentration

**Materials:** Balloons, thread

**Apparatus:** Y-tube

### Procedure

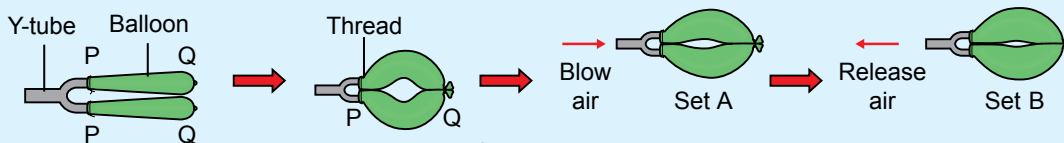


Figure 2.4

1. Insert the Y-tube into two balloons. Tie Ps neatly with thread (Figure 2.4).
2. Tie both Qs ends with a loose knot.
3. Blow through the end of the Y-tube slowly until there is a space in between both balloons (Set A).
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 to obtain another set of apparatus (Set B).
5. Release a certain amount of air from Set B balloons until the balloons straighten.

### Discussion

1. Name the plant structures that are represented by the balloons and the space between them.
2. What represents the potassium ions?
3. State the effect of the addition of air in the balloons and the space between them in Set A.
4. State the effect of releasing some air from the balloons in Set B.

## 2.1

### The Distribution of Stomata on the Upper and Lower Epidermis of Monocot and Eudicot Leaves

#### EXPERIMENT

#### Problem Statement

Is the distribution of stomata in the upper and lower epidermis of monocot and eudicot leaves the same?

#### Aim

To conduct an experiment to compare stomatal distribution of upper and lower epidermis of monocot and eudicot leaves.

#### Hypothesis

The distribution of the stomata in the lower epidermis of the monocot and eudicot leaves are more packed as compared to the distribution of the stomata on the upper epidermis.

#### Variables

**Manipulated variables:** The part of epidermis layer and the type of leaves

**Responding variable:** The number of stoma

**Constant variable:** The leaves of plants

#### Materials

Balsam leaf, lily leaf

#### Apparatus

Colourless nail polish, magnifying glass, forceps, glass slides, cover slips, light microscope

**Procedure**

1. Apply some colourless nail polish on the upper epidermis of a balsam leaf.
2. Let the nail polish dry. Peel off the nail polish layer from the surface of the leaf.
3. Drop a bit of water onto a glass slide and place the nail polish layer on the water droplets. Cover with a cover slip. Observe the presence of stomata and count the number of stoma using a light microscope with low power objective lens.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 for the lower epidermis of the balsam leaf.
5. Repeat steps 1 to 4 by replacing the balsam leaf with a lily leaf.

**Results**

Type of leaves	Part of epidermis layer	Number of stoma
Balsam leaf	Upper epidermis	
	Lower epidermis	
Lily leaf	Upper epidermis	
	Lower epidermis	

**Discussion**

1. Which epidermis has more stomata? Explain how this characteristic enables balsam plants to carry out photosynthesis at optimum rate.
2. Compare the shape of guard cells and the arrangements of stomata between the balsam plant (eudicot) and the lily plant (monocot).

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**Think Smart**

What is the difference between the leaf cuticle of a plant in the desert and an aquatic plant?

**ICT****Activity**

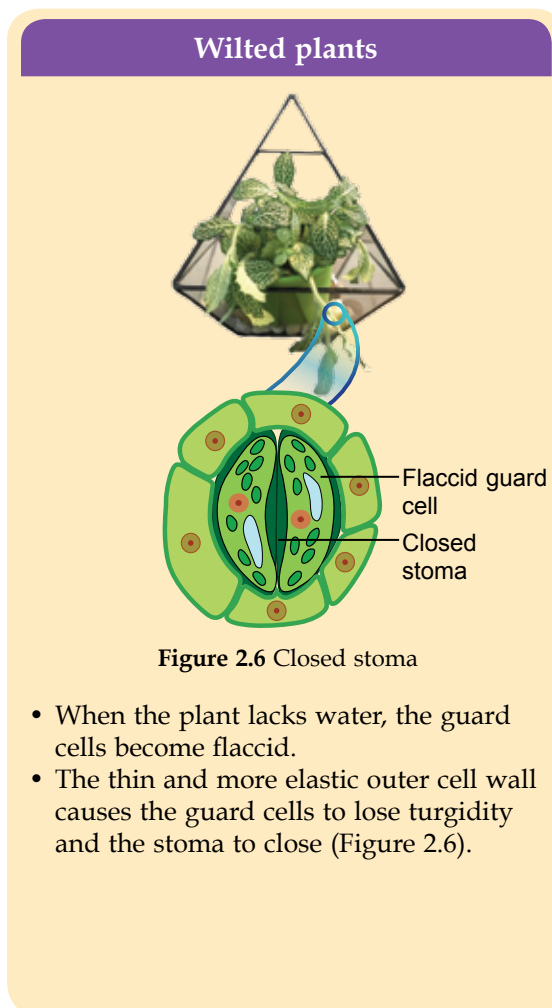
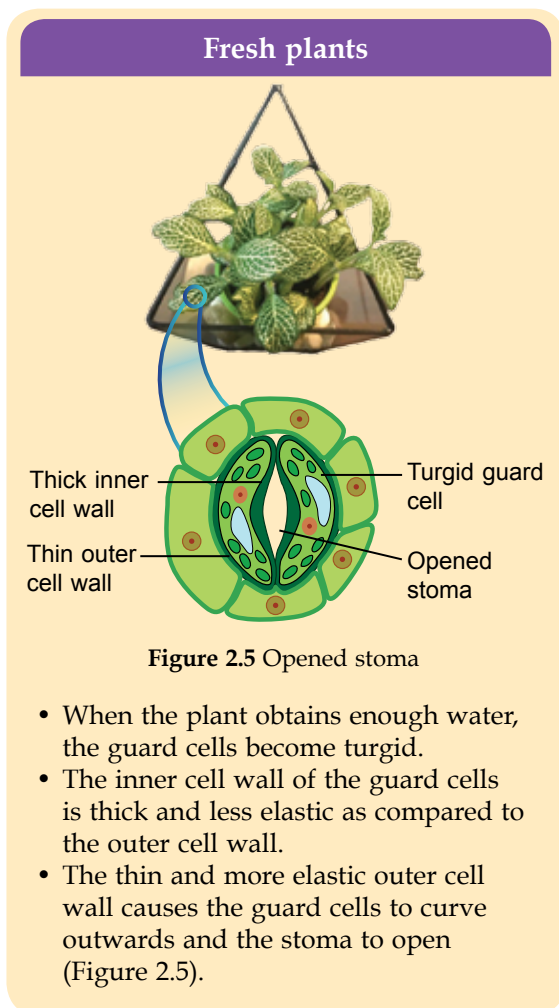
Designing a microbalance

<http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/STEMActivity.pdf>

Photograph 2.6 Lotus

## The Effect of Water Deficiency in Plants on Stomatal Opening and Closing

Water from plants is lost in the form of water vapour to the surroundings through the stomata. When stoma opens widely, the rate of water loss from the plants is high. The opening and closing of the stoma is dependent on the turgor pressure of the guard cells.



## Formative Practice

### 2.2

1. State the differences of gaseous exchange in plants during respiration and photosynthesis.
2. How does humidity in the surroundings affect the size of the stomatal opening?



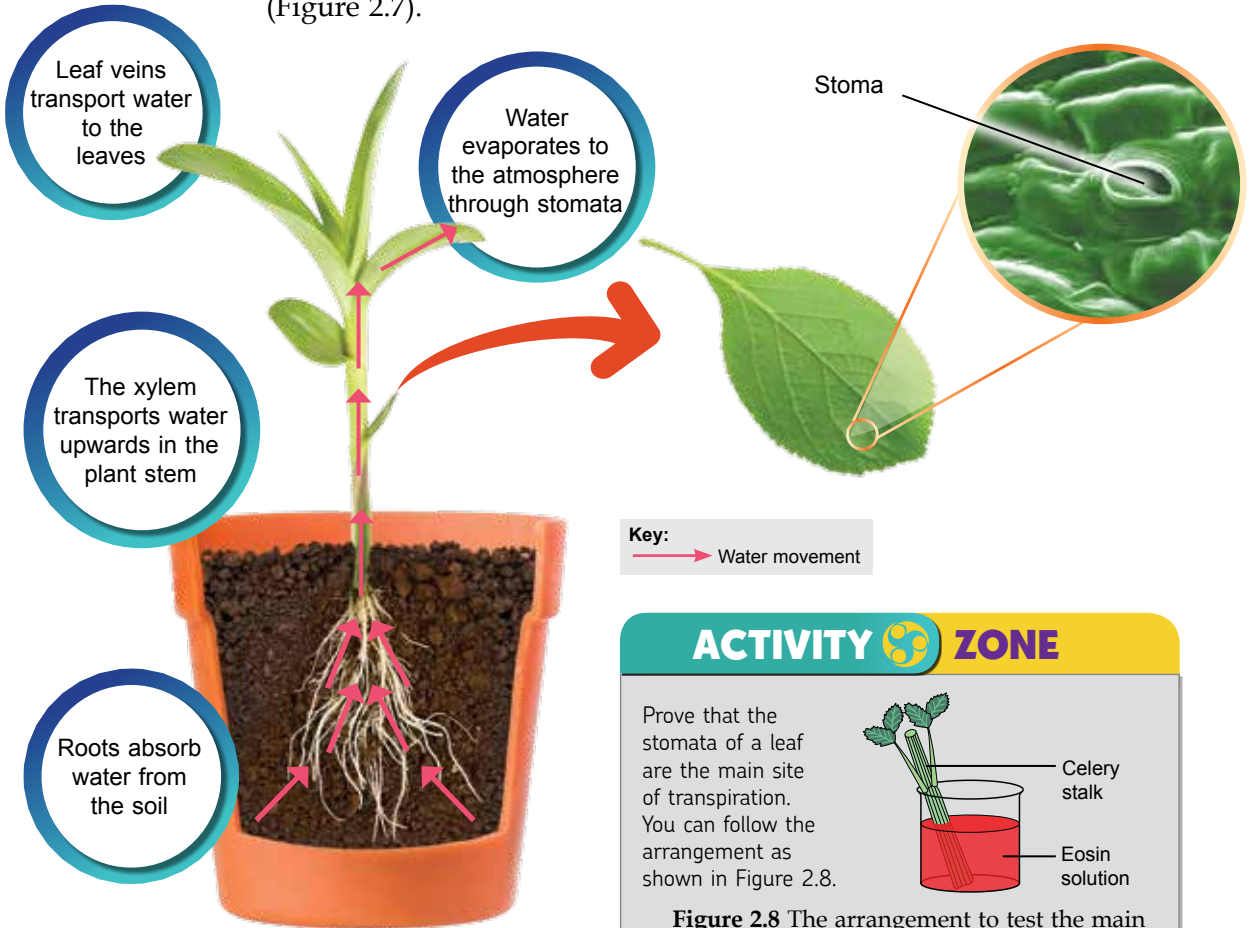
3. The stomatal distribution on the lower leaf surface is more packed as compared to the upper leaf surface. Justify.
4. What is the importance of stomatal closure when the plant lacks water?

# 2.3

## Main Organ for Transpiration

### The Necessity of Transpiration in Plants

**T**ranspiration is a process of water loss in the form of water vapour through evaporation from the plants to the atmosphere. Even though the transpiration process takes place through the stem and flower, 90% of water diffuses out through stomata pores in the leaves. Water diffuses into the root system by osmosis continuously (Figure 2.7).

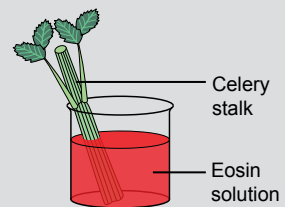


**Figure 2.7** Path of water movement in plants

**Key:**  
→ Water movement

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Prove that the stomata of a leaf are the main site of transpiration. You can follow the arrangement as shown in Figure 2.8.



**Figure 2.8** The arrangement to test the main organ in transpiration

#### Why is transpiration required in plants?

- Plant roots absorb water and mineral salts from soil.
- Water absorbs heat energy from leaves and evaporates as water vapour to give cooling effect.
- Produces a pulling force that moves the water and mineral salts continuously in the xylem vessels from the roots to all plant cells.

## The Environmental Factors that Affect the Rate of Transpiration

The rate of transpiration is affected by various environmental factors (Figure 2.9 - Figure 2.12).



Is the rate of transpiration of plants in the desert and in the tropical rainforest different?



Does a polluted surrounding affect the rate of transpiration?

### Light intensity

The higher the light intensity, the higher the rate of transpiration. If the light intensity increases, the rate of transpiration will increase until it becomes constant. The rate of transpiration is constant because the relative air humidity, temperature and air movement become the limiting factors.

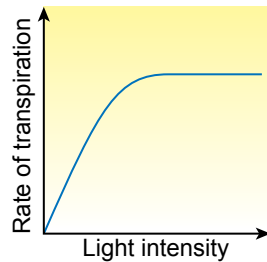


Figure 2.9

### Relative air humidity

The lower relative air humidity of the surrounding atmosphere, the faster water vapour escapes from the stomata. Therefore, the rate of transpiration becomes higher.

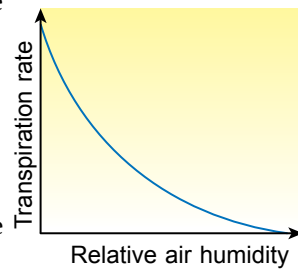


Figure 2.10

### Temperature

An increase in temperature increases the kinetic energy of water molecules thus increasing the rate of transpiration.

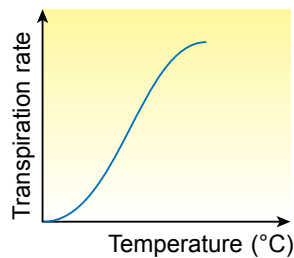


Figure 2.11

### Air movement

The movement of air carries away water molecules that have been diffused out from the leaves. Hence, the faster the air movement, the faster the rate of transpiration.

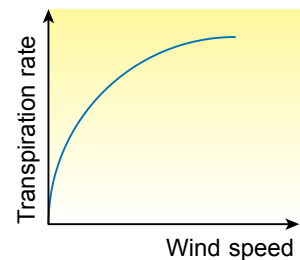


Figure 2.12

**Problem Statement**

What are the effects of environmental factors on the rate of transpiration?

**Aim**

To study the effects of environmental factors on the rate of transpiration using a potometer

**Hypotheses**

- Transpiration rate is higher in the presence of wind.
- Transpiration rate is higher at a higher light intensity.
- Transpiration rate is higher at a higher temperature.
- Transpiration rate is higher at a lower relative air humidity.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** Environmental factors

**Responding variable:** Rate of transpiration

**Constant variable:** Types of plants

**Materials**

Leafy twigs, water, petroleum jelly, plastic bag, tissue paper

**Apparatus**

Cork, beaker, stopwatch, ruler, electrical table fan, 100 W bulb, potometer (capillary tube, screw clip)

**Procedure**

Potometer is a device used to measure water intake by a leafy twig.

- Prepare a potometer and ensure the connections are applied with petroleum jelly so that they are airtight.
- Cut a leafy twig of a plant in water. Ensure the size of the stem is compatible with the cork covering the potometer.
- Set the leafy twig to the potometer and make sure it is airtight (Figure 2.13).
- Wipe all the leaves until they are dry using tissue papers.
- Fill the potometer with water until it is full.
- Trap a small air bubble at the base of the potometer to be used as an indicator.
- Mark the initial position of the air bubble in the potometer as P.
- Place the potometer in a room without fan circulation and followed by placing it in front of fan with speed 2.
- After 10 minutes, measure the distance of the air bubble in the potometer using a ruler or a scale on the capillary tube of the potometer.
- Repeat steps 1 to 8 by exposing the potometer set under the following surroundings:
  - High and low light intensities  
(In a dark room and under a 100 W bulb)
  - High and low temperatures  
(In a room with an air conditioner and in a room without air conditioner)

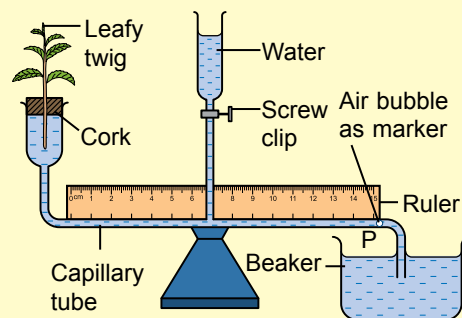


Figure 2.13 Set-up of potometer



- (c) High and low relative air humidities  
(Plant that is covered with a humid plastic bag and plant that not covered)

10. Calculate the rate of transpiration using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Distance travelled by air bubble (cm)}}{\text{Time (min)}}$$

### Results

Surrounding factor		Distance travelled by air bubble in 10 minutes (cm)	Transpiration rate (cm/min)
(a) Air movement	Fast		
	Slow		
(b) Light intensity	High		
	Low		
(c) Temperature	High		
	Low		
(d) Relative air humidity	High		
	Low		

### Discussion

1. Why does the leafy twig has to be cut in water?
2. What is shown by the distance travelled by the air bubble in the capillary tube of the potometer?
3. What are the effects of air movement, light intensity, temperature and relative air humidity towards the distance travelled by the air bubble in the capillary tube?
4. State the operational definition of transpiration.

### Conclusion

Are the hypotheses accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## Formative Practice

### 2.3

1. What is the meaning of transpiration? State the relationship between transpiration and stomata.
2. Other than higher temperature and faster air movement, light intensity also affects the rate of transpiration. Explain.



3. A plant X was submerged in flood for two days. When the water subsided, the leaves of plant X were covered with mud. How does this condition affect the rate of transpiration? Explain.

# 2.4

## Main Organ for Photosynthesis

### The Necessity of Photosynthesis in Plants

Plants are autotrophic organisms that produce their own food through photosynthesis. The product of photosynthesis, which is glucose, is used by other organisms to generate energy through oxidation of food. Energy is needed to carry out living processes such as growth and reproduction.

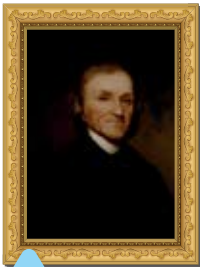
#### Brief History of Discovery of Photosynthesis



Helmont's conclusion: The plant had grown by only being watered and not from the water of the soil.

In 1640s, Jan-Baptista van Helmont carried out an experiment to test the idea that plants obtained their food from the soil.

In the year 1772, an experiment conducted by Joseph Priestly showed that plants released oxygen to the atmosphere.



Priestly's conclusion: Plants release oxygen.

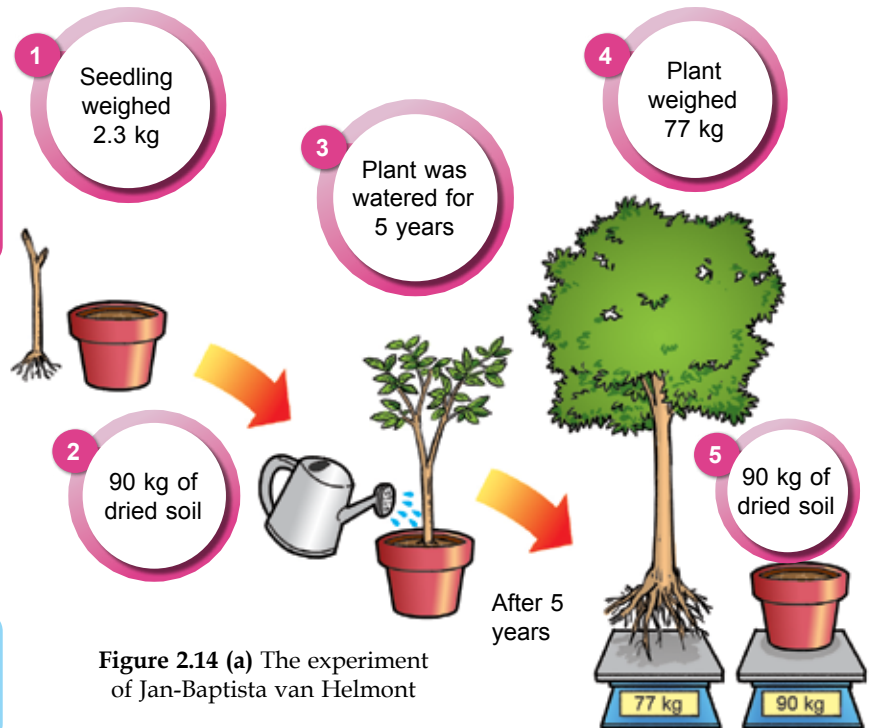


Figure 2.14 (a) The experiment of Jan-Baptista van Helmont

A rat was placed in an inverted glass jar. The rat died.



When a plant was placed inside an inverted glass jar with a rat, the rat lived.



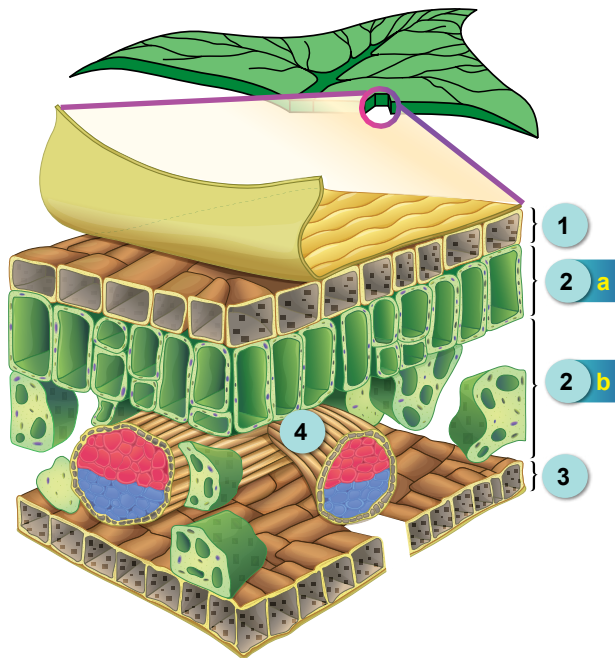
Figure 2.14 (b) The experiment of Joseph Priestly

## The Adaptation of the Internal Structure of a Leaf to Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis needs chlorophyll to absorb light energy from the sun, carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and water from the soil. Oxygen is released as a by-product. Besides the leaf being the main photosynthesis organ, young stem and other green parts of the plants are also able to carry out photosynthesis (Figure 2.15).

### TERM ANALYSIS

**Photosynthesis** originated from the Greek words,  
 • **Photo** = light  
 • **Synthesis** = arranged together or producing



### 1 3 UPPER EPIDERMIS AND LOWER EPIDERMIS

- **Transparent waxy cuticle** on the upper and lower epidermis allows sunlight to penetrate the upper and lower epidermis into the palisade mesophyll.
- **Stomata** are present in the lower epidermis:
  - In the presence of light, stomata open and allow gaseous exchange to occur

### 2 a PALISADE MESOPHYLL

- Packed with **chloroplasts**:
  - Enables sunlight to be absorbed at a maximum rate
- Chloroplast contains chlorophyll
  - **Chlorophyll** absorbs **light energy** for photosynthesis

### 2 b SPONGY MESOPHYLL

- Contains a lesser amount of chloroplasts compared to palisade mesophyll
- Contains air spaces:
  - Allows efficient gaseous exchange during photosynthesis

### 4 VASCULAR BUNDLES

- **Xylem** – transports water and mineral salts absorbed from the root to the leaf
- **Phloem** – transports sucrose produced by photosynthesis from the leaf to all parts of the plant

Figure 2.15 The relation of internal leaf structure adaptation with photosynthesis

## Chloroplast Structure

In Form Four, you were introduced to the chloroplast organelle in plant cells which functions as a site for photosynthesis. A chloroplast contains chlorophyll to absorb sunlight and converts it into chemical energy during photosynthesis. A chloroplast consists of **thylakoids**, **grana**, **stroma** and **lamellae** (Figure 2.16).

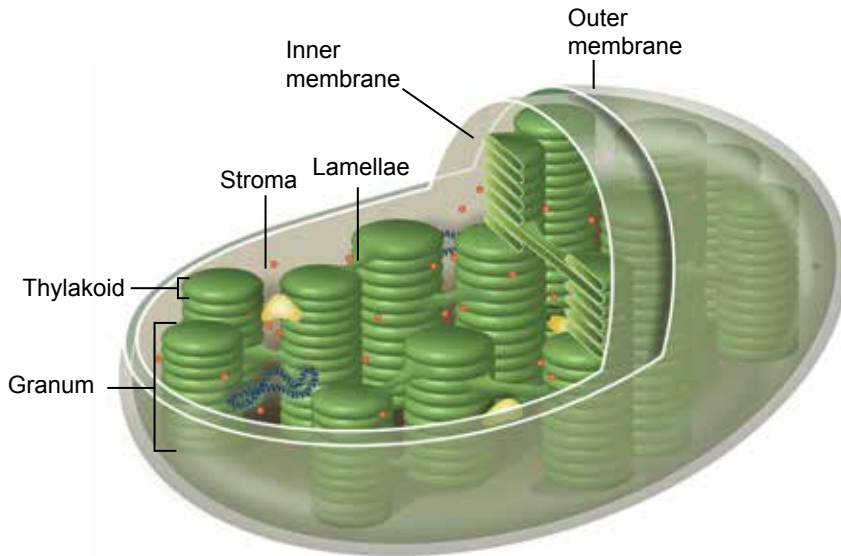


Figure 2.16 Chloroplast structure

### THYLAKOID

- Disc-shaped sacs containing chlorophyll.
- In thylakoid membrane, there are photosynthetic pigments that trap sunlight.
- Light-dependent reaction occurs in the thylakoid.

### GRANUM

- A disc-shaped stack of thylakoids.
- This arrangement increases the surface area for optimal photosynthesis.

### STROMA

- Colourless fluid surrounding **granum** in the chloroplast.
- Site for light-independent reaction to take place which produces glucose.

In autumn, the green colour of the leaves changes to yellow, orange, red or brown. Can you explain why? (Photograph 2.7)

Photograph 2.7  
Changes of leaf colour

### TERM ANALYSIS

**Chlorophyll** originates from the Greek words,

- **Chloros** = green
- **Phyllos** = leaf

How many types of photosynthetic pigments in leaves are involved to produce the green colour of a plant? Do you know that the **chromatography method** can be used to separate the photosynthetic pigments in leaves? Chromatography is a technique separating components of a mixture based on the differences in solubility of the components in certain solvents.

## TERM ANALYSIS

**Chromatogram:**

Paper chromatography with the test result (separated components).

## Activity 2.3

**Aim**

To carry out an investigation to separate photosynthetic pigments in a leaf using paper chromatography

**Materials**

Coleus plant leaves/ pandan leaves/ red spinach leaves, fine sand, 80% acetone, solvent (one part of acetone and nine parts of petroleum ether), skewer, filter paper, pencil

**Apparatus**

Glass container, ruler, mortar and pestle

**Procedure**

1. Pound two leaves of coleus plant/ pandan leaves/ red spinach leaves with 80% acetone and a little bit of fine sand using a mortar and pestle until a thick leaf extract is obtained.
2. Prepare a filter paper of size 3 cm × 15 cm.
3. Draw a line of 1.5 cm from the end of the filter paper horizontally using a pencil.
4. Transfer the leaf extract in the middle of the pencil line and let it dry.
5. Repeat step 4 ten times to get a thick extract on the filter paper.
6. Dip the end of filter paper in a glass container containing solvent at a height of 1 cm (Figure 2.17).
7. Let the filter paper dry for a while and observe the changes.
8. Mark the points of each pigment that can be seen on the chromatogram.

**Discussion**

1. What is the function of solvent in this activity?
2. Why is fine sand used to prepare the leaf extract?
3. How are the photosynthetic pigments in the leaves separated using the chromatography method?

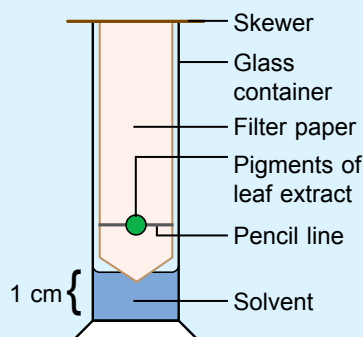


Figure 2.17 Set-up of paper chromatography

**CAUTION**

Ensure that solvent is not touching the droplet of leaf extract.

## Bio Exploration



Plant pigments can be determined by calculating the value of  $R_f$ . Table 2.3 shows the examples of plant pigments,  $R_f$  value and their colours.

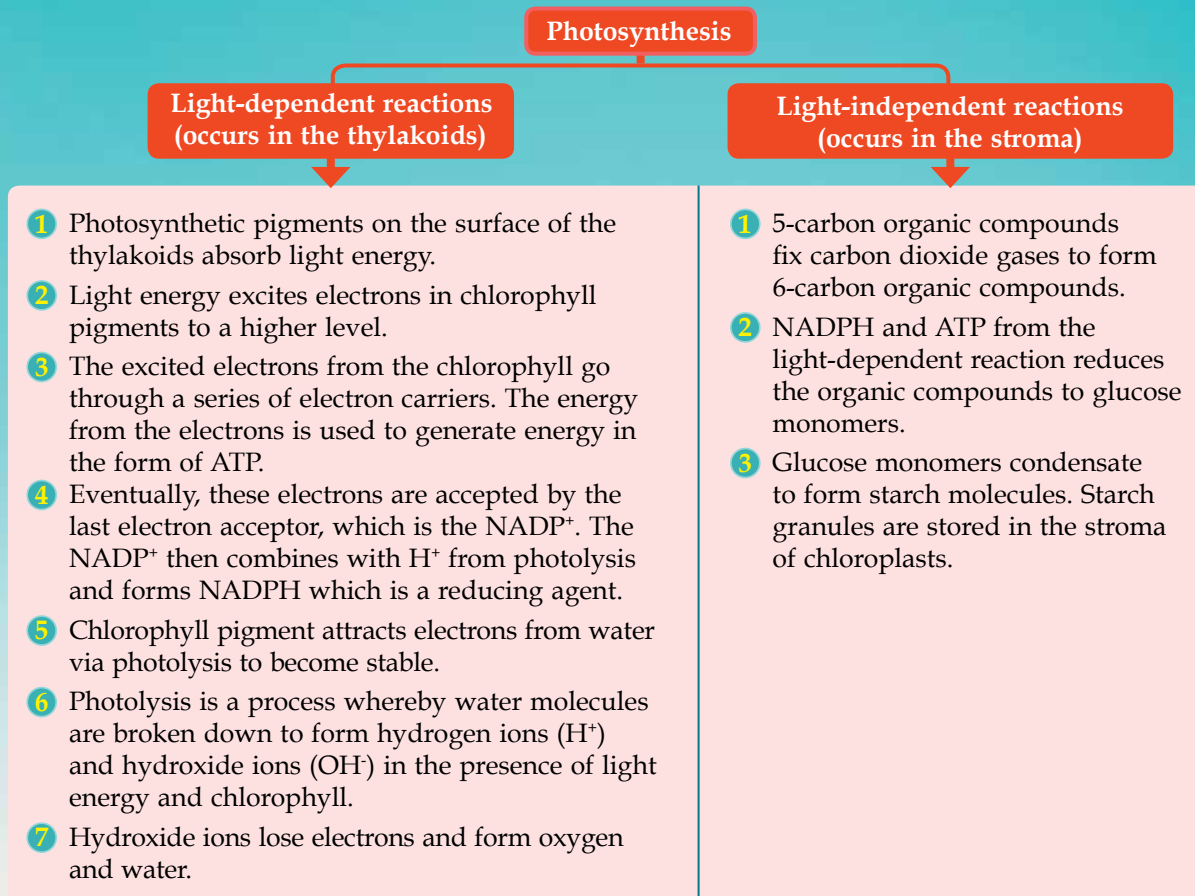
$$R_f = \frac{\text{Distance travelled by pigment}}{\text{Distance travelled by solvent}}$$

Table 2.3  $R_f$  values and the colour of plant pigments

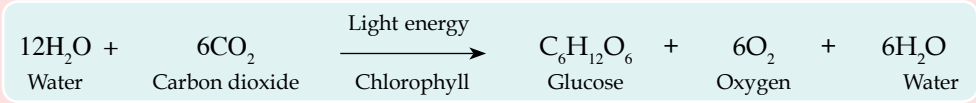
Plant pigment	$R_f$ value	Colour
Chlorophyll a	0.60	Blue/ greenish
Chlorophyll b	0.50	Green
Carotenoid	0.95	Orange
Xanthophyll	0.35	Yellow
Pheophytin	0.70	Grey

# Light-Dependent and Light-Independent Reactions in Photosynthesis

There are two main stages in photosynthesis, which are **light-dependent reaction** and **light-independent reaction** (Figure 2.18).



The overall reaction for photosynthesis can be represented by the following chemical reaction:



**Figure 2.18** The light-dependent reaction and the light-independent reaction

## Bio Exploration

Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADP<sup>+</sup>) is a coenzyme in cells that functions as a hydrogen carrier. In photosynthesis, NADP<sup>+</sup> is an oxidising agent which receives hydrogen ions in the light-dependent reaction, while NADPH is a reducing agent in the light-independent reaction.

## Comparison between Light-Dependent and Light-Independent Reactions in Photosynthesis

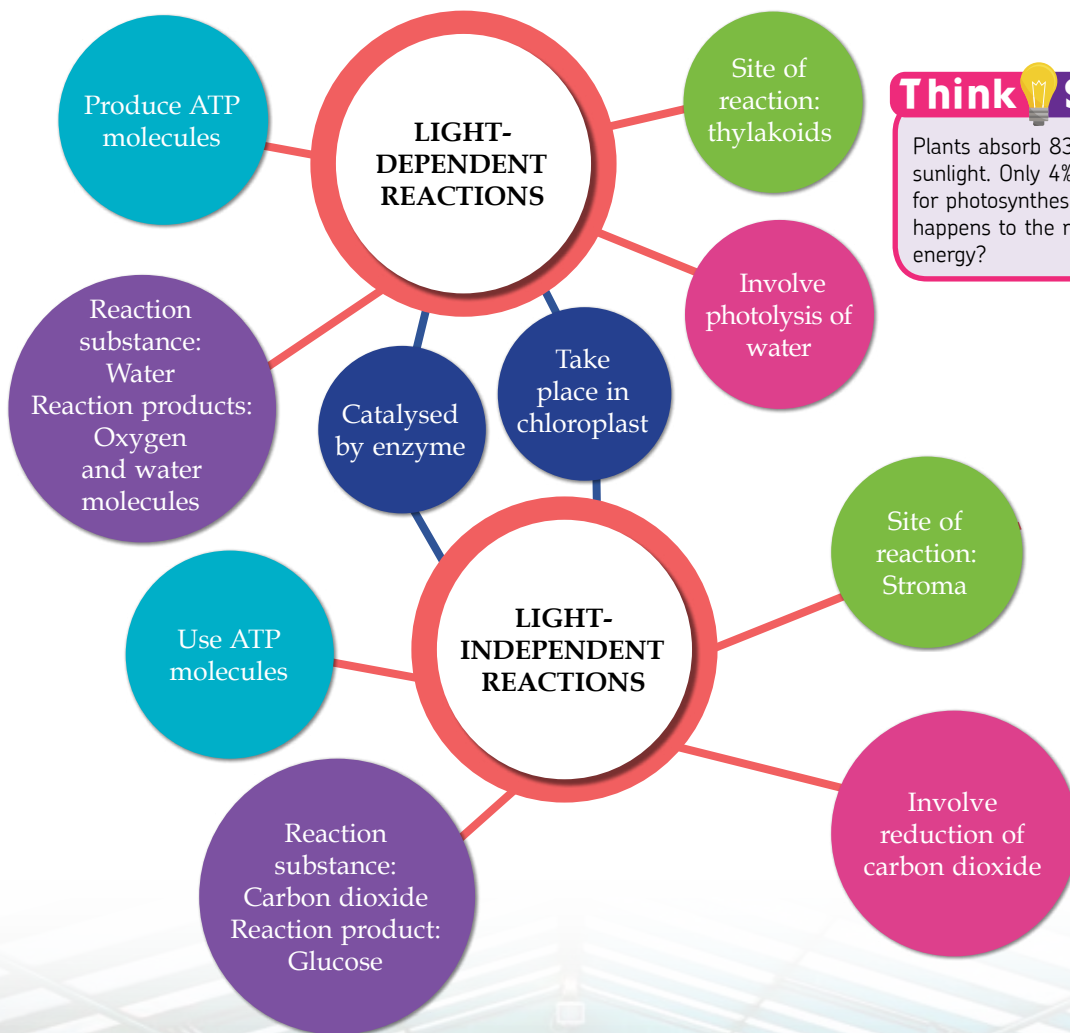


Figure 2.19 Comparison between light-dependent and light-independent reactions

### ACTIVITY ZONE

- Sketch a design of a greenhouse that can be used in a building.
- Discuss:
  - The characteristics of a greenhouse that can help the growth of plants.
  - Besides light intensity, what are the other factors that affect the rate of photosynthesis?

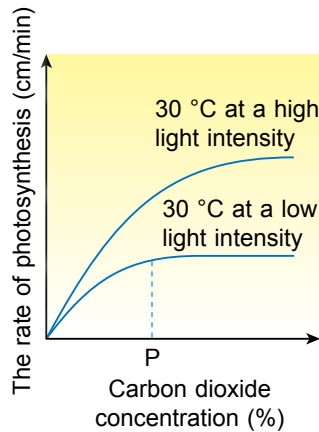
Photograph 2.8 Greenhouse

# Environmental Factors that Affect the Rate of Photosynthesis

## Carbon Dioxide Concentration

The increase in carbon dioxide concentration increases the photosynthesis rate as long as there are no other **limiting factors** such as surrounding temperature and light intensity (Figure 2.20).

At P, photosynthesis rate is constant. As the concentration of carbon dioxide increases after P, the rate of photosynthesis remains unchanged. This is due to light intensity becoming the limiting factor.



**Figure 2.20**

The relationship between the rate of photosynthesis and carbon dioxide concentration

## Bio Exploration

Limiting factor is a factor that controls a biochemistry process and changes according to other variables. An increase in the limiting factor will increase the rate of a certain biochemistry process if the other factors are constant.

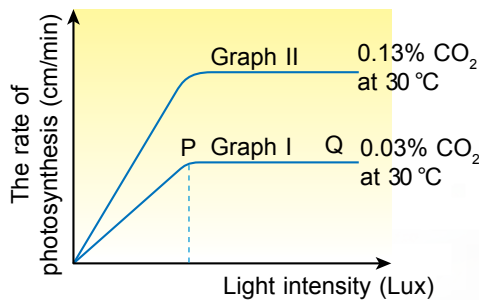
## Light Intensity

Light is needed in the light-dependent reaction. If the concentration of carbon dioxide and temperature are constant, the rate of photosynthesis increases until it reaches its maximum point at noon.

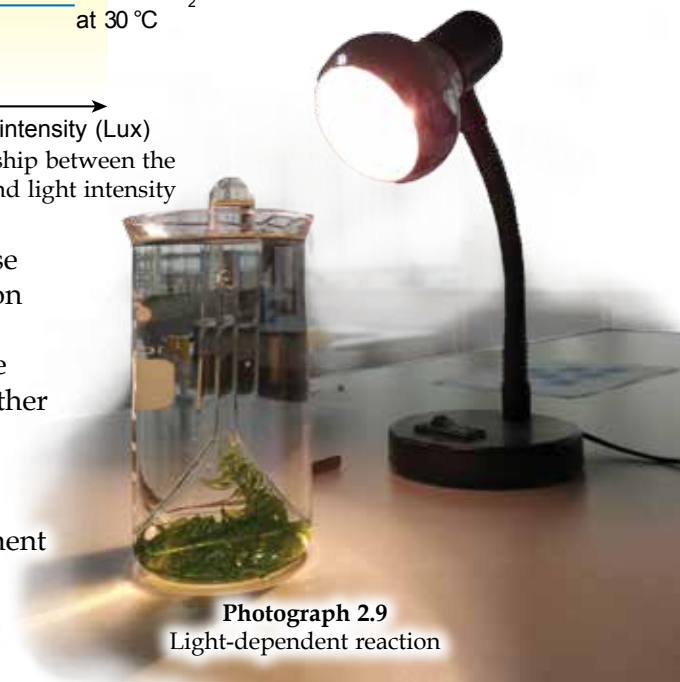
**Figure 2.21**

(Graph I) shows that the rate of photosynthesis increases with the increase of light intensity until it reaches a light saturation point at P. After point P, the increase in light intensity (from P to Q) is no longer increases the rate of photosynthesis because it is limited by other factors such as temperature and carbon dioxide concentration.

Figure 2.21 (Graph II) shows when the concentration of carbon dioxide in the environment is increased to 0.13%, the rate of photosynthesis also increases.



**Figure 2.21** The relationship between the rate of photosynthesis and light intensity



**Photograph 2.9**  
Light-dependent reaction



## Temperature

The reactions in photosynthesis are catalysed by enzymes. Therefore, changes of surrounding temperature will affect enzyme activity and also the rate of photosynthesis. The optimum temperature is different for different plant species but in general, the optimum temperature is between 25°C to 30°C. A very high temperature denatures the enzymes and the process of photosynthesis is stopped (Figure 2.22).

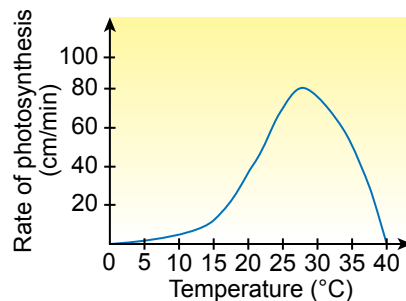


Figure 2.22

The relationship between the rate of photosynthesis and temperature

## 2.3

### The Effects of Environmental Factors on the Rate of Photosynthesis

#### EXPERIMENT

#### Problem Statement

What are the effects of light intensity, temperature and concentration of carbon dioxide towards the rate of photosynthesis?

#### A Light Intensity

##### Aim

To investigate the effects of light intensity on the rate of photosynthesis

##### Hypothesis

The higher the light intensity, the higher the rate of photosynthesis.

##### Variables

**Manipulated variable:** The distance between the light source and *Hydrilla* sp.

**Responding variable:** The number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes

**Constant variables:** The type and size of *Hydrilla* sp., the concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate, the voltage of the bulb

##### Materials

*Hydrilla* sp., 50 ml of distilled water, 0.2% of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution

##### Apparatus

Scissors, 60 W bulb, metre ruler, stopwatch, paper clips, boiling tube, measuring cylinder, retort stand and clamp, thermometer, beaker

##### Procedure

1. Attach a paper clip under the stem cutting of *Hydrilla* sp. and put them in the boiling tube containing 0.2% of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution (Figure 2.23).
2. Clamp the boiling tube vertically to the retort stand.
3. Light the 60 W bulb with a distance of 20 cm from the *Hydrilla* sp.
4. Count and record the number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes. Take three readings to obtain an average.
5. Replace the 0.2% of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution in the boiling tube with a new one.
6. Repeat steps 3 to 5 at different distances between the bulb and the *Hydrilla* sp. at 30 cm, 40 cm, 50 cm and 60 cm.
7. Record the results in a table.

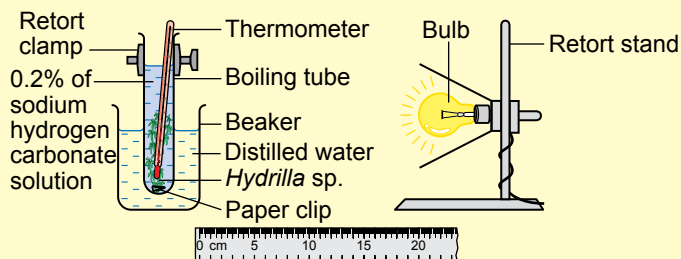


Figure 2.23 Set-up of apparatus

**Results**

Distance of the light source (cm)	Number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes			Average
	1	2	3	
20				
30				

**B Temperature**

**Aim**

To investigate the effects of temperature on the rate of photosynthesis

**Hypothesis**

The higher the temperature, the higher the rate of photosynthesis.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** Temperature

**Responding variable:** The number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes

**Constant variables:** The distance between the light source and *Hydrilla sp.*, the type and size of *Hydrilla sp.*, the concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate, the voltage of the bulb

**Materials**

*Hydrilla sp.*, distilled water, ice cubes, 0.2% of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution

**Apparatus**

Scissors, 60 W bulb, meter ruler, stopwatch, paper clip, boiling tube, measuring cylinder, retort stand and clamp, thermometer, beaker

**Procedure**

- Repeat steps 1 to 2 as in Experiment A (Figure 2.24).
- Light the 60 W bulb with a distance of 10 cm from the *Hydrilla sp.*
- Prepare iced water with a temperature of 5 °C in the beaker.
- Count and record the number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes. Take three readings to obtain an average.
- Change the 0.2% of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution in the boiling tube with a new one.
- Repeat steps 3 to 5 for different water temperatures which are 15 °C, 25 °C, 35 °C, 45 °C, 55 °C, 65 °C and 75 °C.
- Record the results in a table.

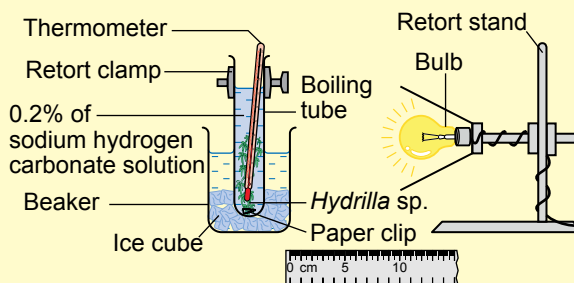


Figure 2.24 Set-up of apparatus

**Results**

Temperature (°C)	Number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes			Average
	1	2	3	
5				
15				

**C Carbon dioxide concentration**

**Aim:** To investigate the effects of carbon dioxide concentration on the rate of photosynthesis

**Hypothesis:** The higher the carbon dioxide concentration, the higher the rate of photosynthesis.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** The concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution

**Responding variable:** The number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes

**Constant variables:** The distance of light source and *Hydrilla* sp., the type and size of *Hydrilla* sp., the voltage of the bulb

**Materials**

*Hydrilla* sp., distilled water, sodium hydrogen carbonate solutions (0.01 M, 0.02 M, 0.03 M, 0.04 M, 0.05 M, 0.06 M, 0.07 M, 0.08 M, 0.09 M, 0.10 M)

**Apparatus**

Scissors, 60 W bulb, metre ruler, stopwatch, paper clips, boiling tube, measuring cylinder, retort stand and clamp, thermometer, beaker

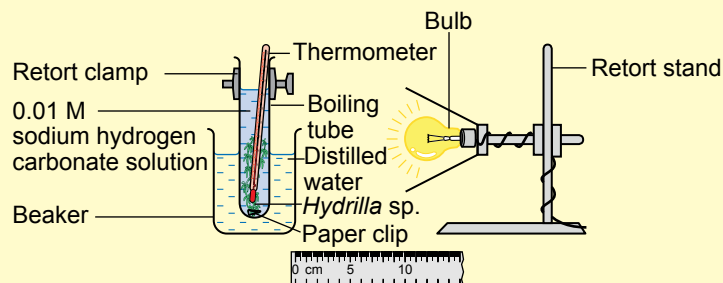
**Procedure**

Figure 2.25 Set-up of apparatus

1. Attach a paper clip under the stem cutting of *Hydrilla* sp. and put them in the boiling tube (Figure 2.25).
2. Pour 5 ml of 0.01 M sodium hydrogen carbonate solution using a measuring cylinder into the boiling tube.
3. Clamp the boiling tube vertically to the retort stand.
4. Light the 60 W bulb at a distance of 10 cm from the *Hydrilla* sp.
5. Count and record the number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes. Take three readings to obtain an average.
6. Repeat steps 2 to 5 for the other concentrations of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution.
7. Record the results in a table.

**Results**

Concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution (M)	Number of air bubbles released in 5 minutes			Average
	1	2	3	
0.01				
0.02				

**Discussion**

- Based on the recorded observations, plot the graphs of:
  - the number of air bubbles produced against the distance of light source and *Hydrilla* sp.
  - the number of air bubbles produced against the temperature
  - the number of air bubbles produced against the concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution
- Based on the plotted graphs, state the inferences that can be made about:
  - the effects of light intensity on the rate of photosynthesis.
  - the effects of temperature on the rate of photosynthesis.
  - the effects of concentration of sodium hydrogen carbonate solution.
- Explain a method to handle all the variables in the Experiment A – C.
- Why is the sodium hydrogen carbonate solution being used instead of distilled water in the experiments?

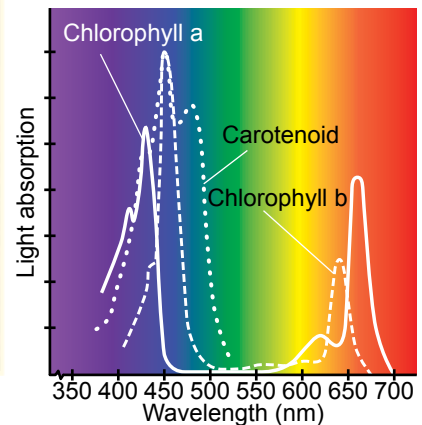
**Conclusion**

Are the hypotheses accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## The Effect of Different Light Intensities and Light Colours on the Rate of Photosynthesis

**ACTIVITY ZONE**

Prepare a proposal to increase crop production based on the factors affecting the rate of photosynthesis in four-season countries.

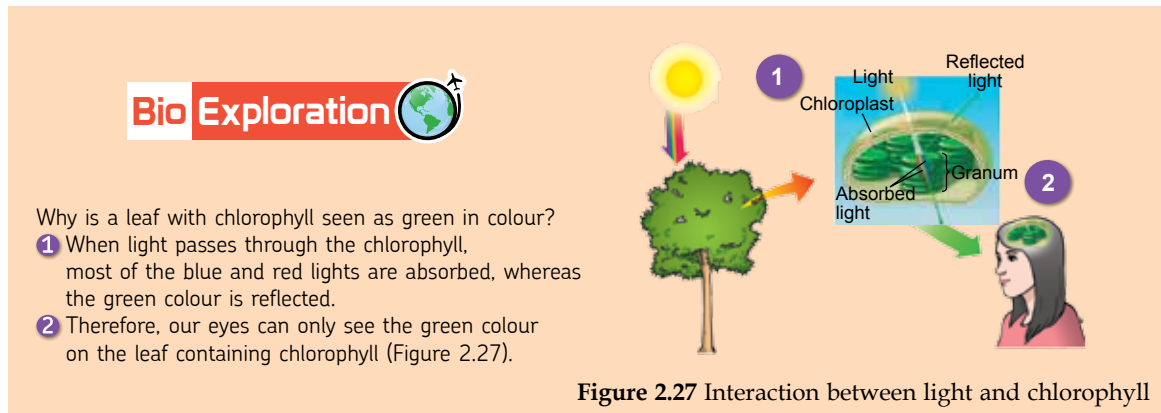
**Figure 2.26**

A graph of light absorption against wavelength

The rate of photosynthesis in plants is different throughout the day. Other than the light intensity factor, the rate of photosynthesis is also affected by the colour of light.

**Light spectrum** consists of seven colours in a certain sequence (violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red). Each colour has a different wavelength. The rate of photosynthesis is the highest in red and blue light (Figure 2.26).

This is because all of the red light is absorbed by **chlorophyll**. The blue light is absorbed by **carotenoid** pigments before being transferred to the chlorophyll. These two lights have enough amount of energy to excite electrons in the light-dependent reaction.



## 2.4

### The Best Light Colour for Aquatic Plants

#### EXPERIMENT

##### Aim

To design an experiment to identify the best light colour to maximise the rate of photosynthesis in aquatic plants

##### Instruction

Design an experiment to identify the best light colour to maximise the rate of photosynthesis in aquatic plants.

# Formative Practice

2.4

1. State **three** main factors affecting the rate of photosynthesis.
2. State the effects of different light intensities on the rate of photosynthesis.
3. Mr. Kumar has succeeded in planting a grape plant in a greenhouse in Cameron Highlands. List the equipment needed.



4.



Light-independent reaction depends on the light-dependent reaction.

Do you agree with this statement? Explain.

## 2.5 Compensation Point

**Compensation point** is the level of light intensity when the rate of respiration equals to the rate of photosynthesis.

### Light Intensity and Attainment of Compensation Point

**A**t the compensation point, the rate of photosynthesis is the same as the rate of respiration. Glucose produced in photosynthesis is used in the respiration of plants.

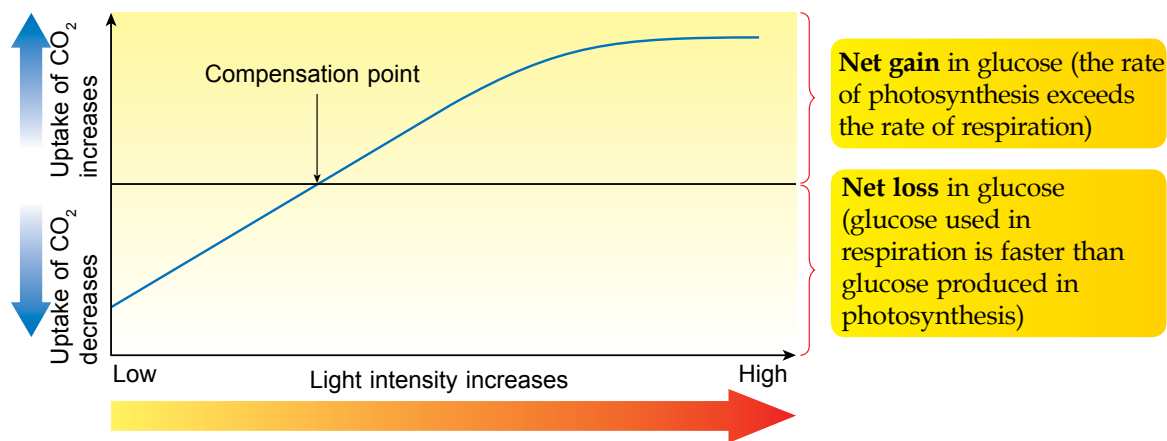


Figure 2.28 Light intensity and compensation point

When light intensity continues to increase beyond the compensation point, the rate of photosynthesis becomes faster compared to the rate of respiration. At this time, carbon dioxide needs to be absorbed from the atmosphere to compensate the rate of its usage in photosynthesis. Excessive oxygen is released into the atmosphere. At the same time, the rate of glucose production exceeds the rate of glucose usage, where the excess glucose is stored in the form of starch by the plants (Figure 2.28).

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Carry out an investigation to confirm the prediction about the effects on plant growth if the rate of photosynthesis and rate of cellular respiration remain at its compensation point.

What would happen if the rate of respiration and the rate of photosynthesis remain the same at the compensation point? The products of photosynthesis will be fully used for the plant respiration. The rate of photosynthesis must exceed the rate of respiration every day to ensure the growth and production of flowers, seeds and fruits to occur. This enables the rate of glucose production to exceed the rate of glucose usage and the excess glucose can be used for growth and development processes in the plant. At the same time, the excess oxygen from the photosynthesis is then released into the atmosphere to support other organisms.

### Think Smart

What is the difference between compensation point in plants exposed to light with plants under a shady place?

## Comparison between Photosynthesis and Respiration in Plants

Both photosynthesis and respiration processes in plants have a few similarities and differences (Table 2.4).

**Table 2.4** Comparison between photosynthesis and respiration

Similarities		
Both processes take place in living organisms		
Both processes involve the uptake and release of gases		
Differences		
Photosynthesis	Aspect	Respiration
Green plants and photosynthetic bacteria	<b>Organisms involved</b>	All living organisms
Happens in the cells containing chlorophyll	<b>Type of cells</b>	Happens in all cells
Anabolism process happens, which is the synthesis of glucose using carbon dioxide and water	<b>Type of metabolism</b>	Catabolism process happens, which is the breakdown of glucose to produce energy
Chloroplast	<b>Site</b>	Mitochondria
Carbon dioxide and water	<b>Reaction substances</b>	Oxygen and glucose
Glucose	<b>Products</b>	Energy
Oxygen and water	<b>By-products</b>	Carbon dioxide and water
Light energy is absorbed and converted into chemical energy	<b>Energy involvement</b>	Chemical energy is converted to ATP and heat energy is released
Needs light	<b>Light requirement</b>	Does not need light

## Formative Practice

### 2.5

1. Give the definition of compensation point.
2. The compensation point of fern plants which grow on the rainforest floor happens at 10.00 am. In your opinion, at what time does a ficus plant which grows higher in the same forest achieve its compensation point?



3. At the compensation point, the rate of photosynthesis and cellular respiration is the same. State the effects on:
  - (a) The production of glucose by plants
  - (b) The release of oxygen into the atmosphere



# Memory Flashback

## Leaf Structure

The external structure of a leaf

- Lamina
- Petiole

The internal structure of a leaf lamina

- Cuticle
- Upper epidermis
- Lower epidermis
- Palisade mesophyll
- Spongy mesophyll
- Vascular bundles

## Leaf Function

Main organ for gaseous exchange

- The necessity of gaseous exchange in plants
- The mechanism of stomatal opening and closing
- The effect of water deficiency in plants on stomatal opening and closing

Main organ for transpiration

- The necessity of transpiration
- The environmental factors that affect the rate of transpiration
  - Temperature
  - Light intensity
  - Relative air humidity
  - Air movement

Main organ for photosynthesis

- The necessity of photosynthesis
- The adaptation of the internal structure of a leaf to photosynthesis
- Chloroplast structure
- Light-dependent and light-independent reactions in photosynthesis
- The environmental factors that affect the rate of photosynthesis
  - Light intensity
  - Temperature
  - Carbon dioxide concentration

Compensation point

- Definition of compensation point
- Comparison between photosynthesis and respiration



Interactive 2 Bio





# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.



Important concepts	Very good	Try again
The external structure of a leaf and the internal structure of a leaf lamina		
The necessity of gaseous exchange in plants		
The mechanism of stomatal opening and closing		
The effect of lack of water in plants on stomatal opening and closing		
The necessity of transpiration in plants		
The environmental factors that affect the rate of transpiration		
The necessity of photosynthesis in plants		
The relationship of the adaptation of the internal structure of a leaf to photosynthesis		
Chloroplast structure		
The relationship between the light-dependent and light-independent reactions		
Chemical equation to represent the process of photosynthesis		
The environmental factors that affect the rate of photosynthesis		
The effect of light intensity and colours of light on the rates of photosynthesis		
Compensation point		
The comparison between photosynthesis and cellular respiration in plant		

# Summative Practice

2









- Petiole and lamina are external structures of a leaf. State the function of these two structures.
  - A leaf is a plant organ that is flat, thin and green in colour. Explain the importance of these characteristics on the function of a leaf.
- Other than chlorophyll pigment, plants also have carotenoids, which are yellow, orange and red pigments that can absorb light energy from the sun to carry out photosynthesis. Explain the differences of chlorophyll and carotenoids involvement in photosynthesis. 
- A group of students carry out an experiment to investigate the distribution of stomata on mint and thyme leaves. Thyme plants have less number of leaves than mint plants. Table 1 shows the results of the experiment.

Table 1

Leaf sample	Estimated mass loss (%)	
	Mint	Thyme
Sample A Petroleum jelly layer on lower epidermis and upper epidermis	13	12
Sample B Petroleum jelly layer on lower epidermis	35	19
Sample C Petroleum jelly layer on upper epidermis	43	29

- For mint leaf, which sample loses water the most? Explain. 
  - For thyme leaf, which sample has the highest distribution of stomata? Explain. 
  - Explain the differences of both leaves based on the results of the experiment. 
  - Based on the results of the experiment, which plant can adapt to a hot and dry surrounding condition? Give a reason for your answer. 
- Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2 show the average of stomata size in two different types of plants in a 24-hour duration. One of the plants is placed in a humid surrounding whereas another plant is placed in a hot and dry surrounding. 

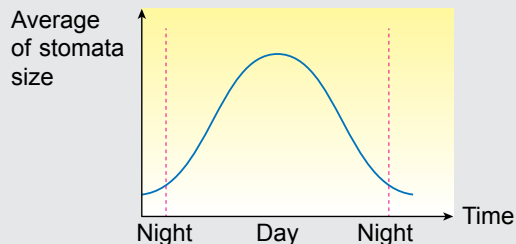


Figure 1.1

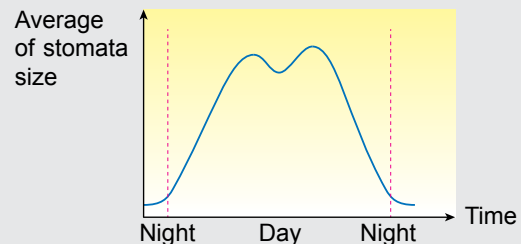














Figure 1.2

- (a) Which graph shows the plant that has been placed in a hot and dry surrounding? 
- (b) Explain your answer in 4(a). 
- (c) Why is the average of stomata size at night smaller than day time? 
- (d) Predict **two** characteristics of the plant structures which have been placed in a hot and dry surrounding in order to continue living. 
5. (a) Name **two** types of reactions in photosynthesis. 
- (b) In which reaction is chlorophyll needed? Explain.
6. Aizat keeps a few fish in an aquarium which is decorated with plastic aquatic plants. However, those fish die because there is no electrical supply. Suggest **one** way for Aizat to overcome the problem. 
7. (a) What is meant by compensation point?  
 (b) How does the compensation point affect the production and usage of oxygen and carbon dioxide? 
8. Temperate crops are high in demand in Malaysia. Other than being imported from overseas, these crops are also planted domestically in higher regions such as Cameron Highlands. If controllable surroundings can be established, these crops can also be planted in lower regions in Malaysia.
- (a) What kind of technology exists in Malaysia that enables these crops to be planted in lower regions with controllable surroundings? 
- (b) In your opinion, what are the challenges to the farmers who will be using this technology? 
- (c) Suggest **one** technology that can be used by the farmers to face the challenges. 



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

9. In the monsoon season, frequent rain causes the air to become saturated with water vapour. In your opinion, does this condition affect the mineral supply in plants? Explain. 
10. Long-day plants such as pea plants need more than 12 hours of light to produce flowers. Suggest **one** best way that can be used by farmers in four-season countries to plant in autumn. Explain. 

# Nutrition in Plants

## Chapter

## Exploration

- Main Inorganic Nutrients
- Organ for Water and Mineral Salts Uptake
- Diversity in Plant Nutrition



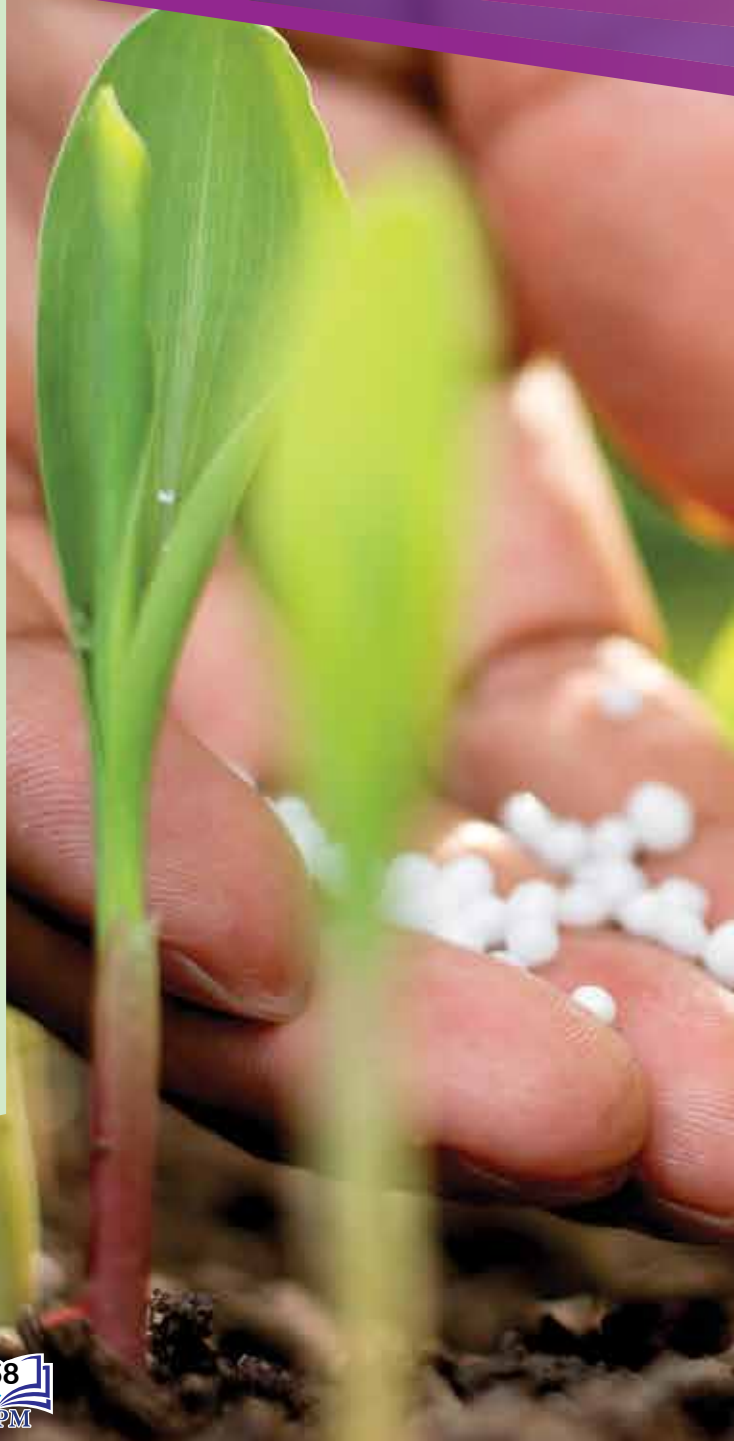
Learning Standards



## Do You

## Know?

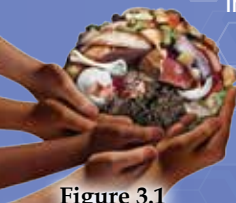
- What are the examples of macronutrients and micronutrients that are required by plants?
- Why do crops need to be fertilised?
- Can plants be infected with diseases?
- Why do the roots act as an organ for water and mineral absorption?
- How is the *Rafflesia* sp. able to live without leaves?



## Organic Compost Fertilisers

Did you know that excess leftover food can be recycled to produce organic fertilisers? Compost is a type of fertiliser produced from the decomposition process of leftover substances such as crop leftovers, kitchen leftovers, plant excretory substances and animal faeces which are decomposed by microorganisms. How is the organic compost fertiliser made?

Leftover substances, together with bacteria, are placed in a container with aeration to speed up the decomposition process. Dry leftover substances are layered with wet leftover substances alternately. Water is sprinkled on every layer. The leftover substances are stirred every two days until compost is formed. The compost is usually done after being kept for a few months.



**Figure 3.1**  
Leftover substances for composting

The practice of producing compost fertilisers at home can save many landfill sites. In addition, the cost of buying chemical fertilisers can also be reduced (Figure 3.1).



### Keywords



- Chlorosis
- Culture solution
- Macronutrients
- Micronutrients
- Nutrition
- Nutrients
- Root hair
- Parasitic plants
- Epiphytic plants
- Carnivorous plants

# 3.1 Main Inorganic Nutrients

Like other living things, plants need nutrients to grow well and produce high quality yields. Plants need inorganic nutrients to produce organic compounds such as carbohydrates and proteins. What are the inorganic nutrients required by plants?



## Macronutrients and Micronutrients Required by Plants

These nutrients can be divided according to quantities required by plants, which are **macronutrients** and **micronutrients** (Figure 3.2).

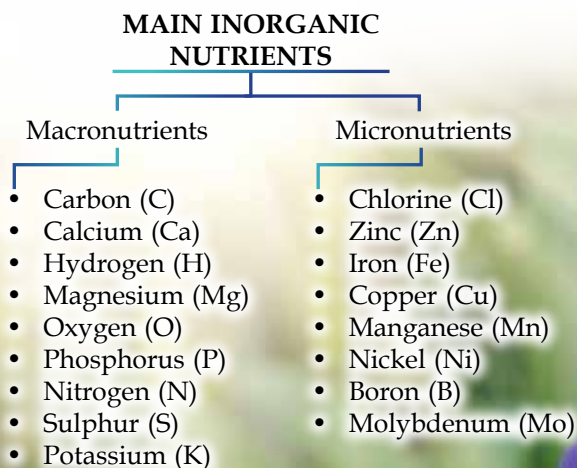


Figure 3.2 Main inorganic nutrients



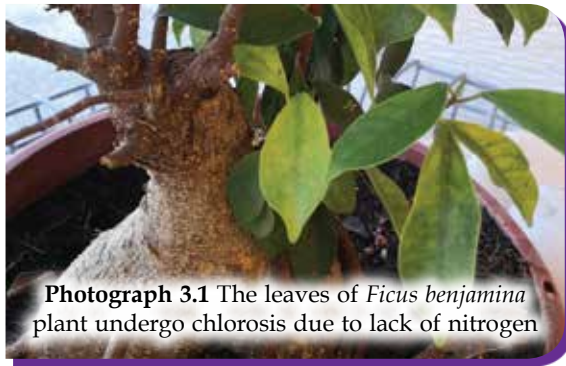
Three main macronutrients, which are **carbon, hydrogen** and **oxygen**, can be obtained easily from air and water from the soil. These nutrients make up most of the dry mass of plants. Therefore, the lack of these nutrients is rarely experienced by plants. The remaining nutrients are taken in the form of mineral salts which are dissolved in the soil through fertilisation.

## The Necessity of Macronutrients in Plants

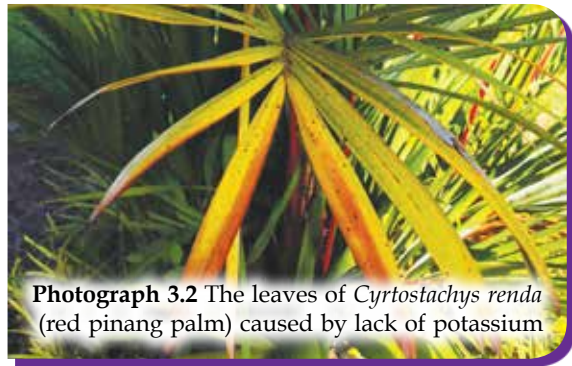
Every nutrient has its own function in order to ensure that plants complete their life cycle and achieve optimum growth and development. The lack of one or more macronutrients can cause bad effects on the health and growth of plants. Table 3.1 shows the functions and effects of macronutrient deficiency.

**Table 3.1** The functions and effects of macronutrient deficiency

Macronutrients	Functions	Effects of Deficiency
Carbon (C) Oxygen (O) Hydrogen (H)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important components in carbon cycle and oxygen cycle</li> <li>• Components in all organic compounds of plants and important components in synthesis of sugar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photosynthesis will not take place</li> <li>• Less oxygen released by plants</li> <li>• Stunted growth which can cause death because there is no glucose</li> </ul>
Nitrogen (N)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gives the green colour to plants through the formation of chlorophyll</li> <li>• Main components of proteins, nucleic acids and enzymes in photosynthesis and respiration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaves undergo chlorosis (yellowing of the leaves) (Photograph 3.1) mainly on matured leaves</li> <li>• Underlying leaves fall off</li> <li>• Protein synthesis disrupted</li> <li>• Stunted growth</li> </ul>
Potassium (K)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important in protein synthesis and carbohydrate metabolism</li> <li>• As cofactors for some enzymes</li> <li>• Maintains plant turgidity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protein synthesis disrupted</li> <li>• Edges of leaves become yellowish (Photograph 3.2)</li> <li>• Premature death of plants</li> </ul>
Calcium (Ca)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main component of middle lamella, cell wall and spindle fibres during cell division</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stunted growth</li> <li>• Leaves become distorted and lobed</li> <li>• Parts between leaf veins become yellowish</li> </ul>
Magnesium (Mg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main component of the structure of chlorophyll molecule</li> <li>• Activates some plant enzymes</li> <li>• Involved in carbohydrate metabolism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parts between matured leaf veins become yellowish</li> <li>• Red spots on leaf surfaces</li> <li>• Lobed leaves</li> </ul>
Phosphorus (P)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesises nucleic acids, adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and phospholipids in plasma membrane</li> <li>• Act as coenzymes in photosynthesis and respiration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unhealthy root growth</li> <li>• Formation of dark green and dull coloured leaves</li> <li>• Red or purple spots appear on older leaves</li> </ul>
Sulphur (S)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Components of a few amino acids</li> <li>• One of vitamin B constituents and a few types of coenzymes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaves or the whole plant turns yellow</li> </ul>



**Photograph 3.1** The leaves of *Ficus benjamina* plant undergo chlorosis due to lack of nitrogen



**Photograph 3.2** The leaves of *Cyrtostachys renda* (red pinang palm) caused by lack of potassium

## The Necessity of Micronutrients in Plants

Table 3.2 shows the functions and effects of micronutrients deficiency.

**Table 3.2** The functions and effects of micronutrients deficiency

Micronutrients	Functions	Effects of Deficiency
Chlorine (Cl)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important in the equilibrium of osmotic pressure in cells and photosynthesis reaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plants wilt</li> <li>• Slower root growth</li> <li>• Leaves undergo chlorosis</li> <li>• Lesser fruit production</li> </ul>
Iron (Fe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts as a cofactor in chlorophyll synthesis</li> <li>• Important in the growth of young plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young leaves become yellowish</li> </ul>
Manganese (Mn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activates photosynthetic enzymes</li> <li>• Important for cell respiration and nitrogen metabolism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network of dark green leaf veins with a background of light green</li> <li>• Light brown or grey spots in between leaf veins</li> </ul>
Boron (B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helps the roots in calcium ion uptake and sucrose translocation</li> <li>• Involves in carbohydrate metabolism and helps in germination of pollen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death of terminal buds and abnormal growth</li> <li>• Leaves become thicker, rolled up and fragile</li> </ul>
Zinc (Zn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important in leaf formation</li> <li>• Synthesis of auxin (growth hormone)</li> <li>• As a cofactor in carbohydrate metabolism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaf surfaces become spotted with chlorosis parts</li> <li>• Stunted growth</li> </ul>
Copper (Cu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involves in nitrogen metabolism and photosynthesis</li> <li>• Important for growth, reproduction and flower formation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death of young shoot apex</li> <li>• Brown spots on terminal leaves</li> <li>• Plants become stunted</li> </ul>
Nickel (Ni)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A component of plant enzymes involved in the breakdown of urea to become ammonia which can be used by plants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stunted growth</li> <li>• Reduces crop production</li> <li>• Burnt effect at the end of leaves due to urea accumulation</li> </ul>
Molybdenum (Mo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involves in nitrogen fixation and nitrate reduction during protein synthesis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chlorosis in between matured leaf veins</li> <li>• Leaf colour becomes pale green</li> <li>• Reduces crop production</li> </ul>



A culture solution is used to study the importance of nutrients for plant growth. A culture solution known as **Knop's solution**, contains all nutrients including trace elements needed by healthy plants. A complete culture solution was prepared by a chemist named Wilhelm Knop in 1859. Table 3.3 shows the composition of a complete Knop's culture solution.

**Table 3.3** The composition of a complete Knop's culture solution

Complete Knop's culture solution	
Calcium nitrate, $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$	0.8 g
Potassium nitrate, $\text{KNO}_3$	0.2 g
Potassium dihydrogen phosphate, $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$	0.2 g
Magnesium sulphate, $\text{MgSO}_4$	0.2 g
Iron(III) phosphate, $\text{FePO}_4$	Trace
Distilled water	1000 $\text{cm}^3$



### History Corner

Julius Sachs and Wilhelm Knop were the botanists who carried out experiments to determine the role of macronutrients in plant growth.

## 3.1

### The Effects of Nitrogen: Phosphorus: Potassium Ratios on Plant Growth

#### EXPERIMENT

**Problem Statement:** What are the effects of nitrogen: phosphorus: potassium (N:P:K) ratio on the growth of corn seedlings?

**Aim:** To investigate the effects of identified nitrogen: phosphorus: potassium (N:P:K) ratio on the growth of corn seedlings

**Hypothesis:** Corn seedlings undergo healthy growth in Knop's solution with the ratio of nitrogen: phosphorus: potassium (N:P:K)

#### Variables

**Manipulated variable:** Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium ratio

**Responding variable:** Growth of corn seedlings

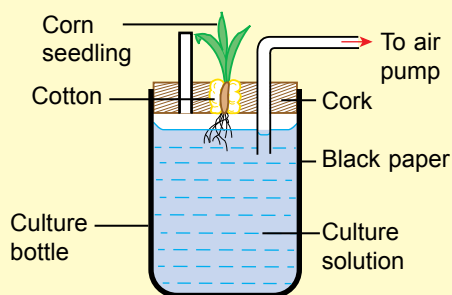
**Constant variable:** Volume of solution

**Materials:** Corn seedlings (*Zea mays*), calcium nitrate,  $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , potassium nitrate,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , potassium dihydrogen phosphate,  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ , magnesium sulphate,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , iron(III) phosphate,  $\text{FePO}_4$ , distilled water, cotton, black paper, calcium chloride, potassium chloride, calcium phosphate, iron(III) oxide, sodium nitrate

**Apparatus:** Culture bottles, L-shaped delivery tubes, corks, air pumps

#### Procedure

1. Prepare five culture bottles with A, B, C, D and E labels.
2. Fill the culture bottles A, B, C, D and E with solution as shown in Table 3.4.
3. Select five corn seedlings of the same size and put each one of them into the culture bottles by inserting the stem through the hole on the cork. Make sure the roots of the seedlings are immersed in the solution.



**Figure 3.3** Set-up of apparatus

- Cover all the culture bottles with black paper to avoid the growth of green algae.
- Connect the culture bottles to an air pump to ensure the roots receive oxygen supply.
- Replace the culture solution in each bottle with a new solution every week.
- Place the apparatus in a well-lit place.
- Observe and record the growth of corn seedlings in terms of leaf colour, plant height, root length and stem strength after four weeks.

Table 3.4

Culture bottle	Components of culture solution					
	Calcium nitrate (0.8 g)	Potassium nitrate (0.2 g)	Potassium dihydrogen phosphate (0.2 g)	Magnesium sulphate (0.2 g)	Iron(III) phosphate (Trace)	Distilled water (1000 ml)
A (Complete culture solution)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
B (control)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
C (without nitrogen)	Replaced with calcium chloride	Replaced with potassium chloride	✓	✓	✓	✓
D (without phosphorus)	✓	✓	Replaced with potassium chloride	✓	Replaced with iron(III) oxide	✓
E (without potassium)	✓	Replaced with sodium nitrate	Replaced with calcium phosphate	✓	✓	✓

### Observation

Culture bottle	Nutrient deficiency	Observation
A		
B		
C		
D		
E		

### Discussion

- State **two** precautionary steps to be taken during apparatus and material preparation. Justify.
- Which culture bottle has grown a healthy corn seedling?
- How does the ratio of nitrogen: phosphorus: potassium (N:P:K) affect the growth of corn seedlings?

### Conclusion

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## Formative Practice

### 3.1

1. How are macronutrients different from micronutrients?
2. State **three** nutrients which can cause chlorosis if there is a lack of any of these nutrients.
3. Corn plants are very sensitive to nutrient deficiency. How does the NPK (nitrogen,



phosphorus and potassium) fertiliser stimulate healthy growth of corn plants?

4. Roots and leaves are the medium to transport nutrients in plants. With your knowledge in biology, support this statement.



## 3.2 Organ for Water and Mineral Salts Uptake

**W**hy is the root the most important organ for plants? As you have learnt in Chapter 1, roots are involved directly in plant growth. Usually, roots are located under the soil surface. This is because roots grow towards the centre of the earth and watery areas. The internal and external structures of roots are adapted to their functions (Figure 3.4 and Table 3.5). There are two main functions of roots:

- Provide support and strength to anchor the plant in the soil
- Absorb water and mineral salts from the soil and transport them to the stem and leaves

### The Root Structure for Water and Mineral Salts Uptake

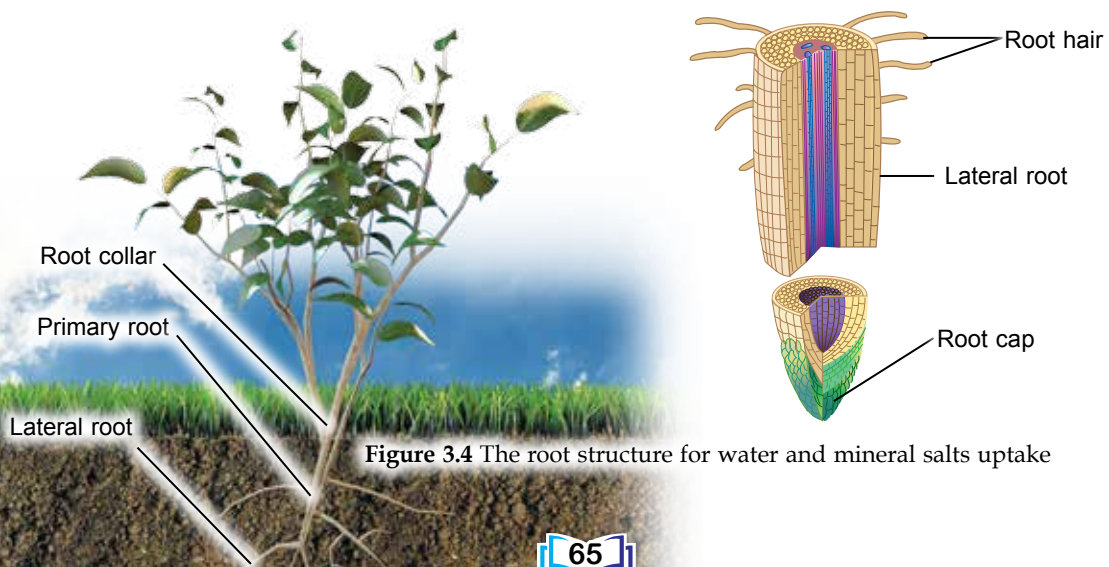


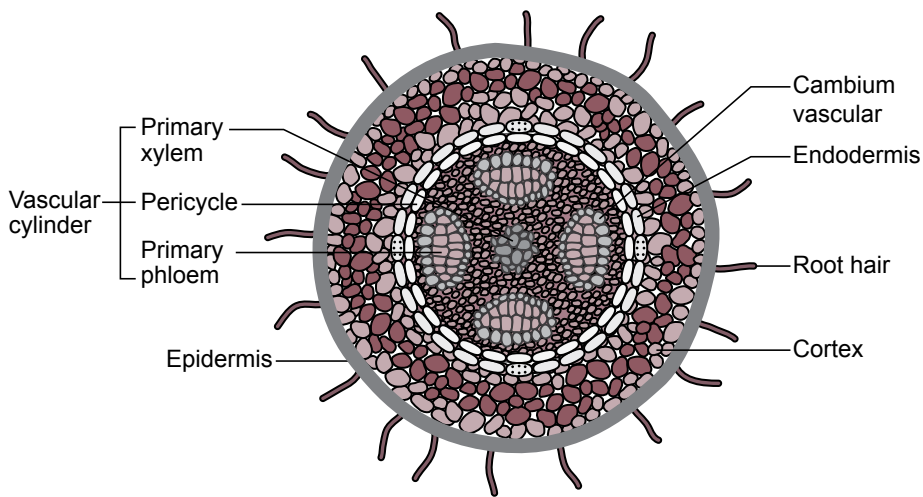
Figure 3.4 The root structure for water and mineral salts uptake

**Table 3.5** The structure of roots and their functions

Structures	Functions
Root collar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of the root connected to the base of the plant stem</li> </ul>
Root hairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapted from epidermal cells of the roots</li> <li>Increases the total surface area of the roots to increase the uptake of water and mineral salts</li> </ul>
Root cap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located at the tip of the root</li> <li>Protects the root from damage when going through the soil</li> </ul>

## Root Adaptations for Water and Mineral Salts Uptake

Figure 3.5 shows the internal structure of roots whereas Table 3.6 shows the functions of internal structures of roots.



**Figure 3.5** The internal structures of roots

**Table 3.6** The functions of the internal structures of roots

Structures	Functions
Epidermis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Epidermal cells are closely arranged.</li> <li>Thin cell walls and water-permeable cell membranes facilitate water movement in the roots.</li> <li>There are epidermal cells which form root hairs by elongating towards lateral sides from the outer walls.</li> <li>Root hair cells are not layered with cuticle to allow water absorption.</li> <li>The root hair cells also have big vacuoles to store water and mineral salts to increase water absorption.</li> </ul>
Cortex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cortex is located under the epidermal layer.</li> <li>Has thin cell walls, facilitating water movement in the roots.</li> <li>The cells are loosely arranged to facilitate gaseous exchange.</li> <li>Most of the cortex consists of parenchyma cells.</li> </ul>

Endodermis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separating layer between cortex and vascular cylinder.</li> <li>• Endodermal cells are closely arranged and one cell thick.</li> <li>• Most of the endodermal cells have suberin or lignin thickening at the walls which form Casparian strips.</li> <li>• Endodermis allows water and mineral salts absorbed from the soil to enter the vascular cylinder, but not air bubbles.</li> </ul>
Vascular cylinder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vascular cylinder is the root core that consists of xylem and phloem tissues surrounded by one cell thick pericycle cell tissues.</li> <li>• Pericycle is involved in secondary growth and the formation of lateral roots.</li> <li>• Usually, xylem and phloem tissues are arranged in a star-shaped pattern.</li> <li>• Xylem tissue transports water and mineral salts, whereas phloem tissue transports organic substances such as sucrose and plant hormone.</li> </ul>

## Activity 3.1



### Aim

To observe prepared slides of cross-sections of monocot and eudicot roots

### Apparatus

Light microscope, prepared slides of cross-sections of *Zea mays* (corn plant) root and *Tilia* sp. (lime tree) root

### Procedure

1. Observe the prepared slides of cross-sections of *Zea mays* and *Tilia* sp. roots using a light microscope with low power objective lens and then with high power objective lens.
2. Identify root hair cells, epidermis, cortex, endodermis, pericycle, xylem and phloem.
3. Draw the cross-sections of *Zea mays* and *Tilia* sp. roots. Record the power of magnification used.

### Discussion

1. What tissues form the cortex? How can these tissues be identified?
2. How are the xylem and phloem tissues arranged in the roots of a monocot and eudicot?
3. Based on your knowledge in biology, why is the arrangement of xylem and phloem tissues different in monocot and eudicot roots?

## Formative Practice

### 3.2

1. What tissues form the root?
2. Explain the adaptations of root epidermal cells to carry out their functions in the absorption of water and mineral salts.



3. Compare monocot and eudicot roots in terms of cortex tissues, endodermis tissues and Casparian strip.

# 3.3 Diversity in Plant Nutrition

**N**utrition is a process of organisms obtaining energy and nutrients from food for growth, maintenance and repair of damaged tissues. **Parasitic, epiphytic and carnivorous** plants have different adaptations to obtain nutrients.

## Nutritional Adaptations of Plants

### Parasitic plants

- **Parasitic plants** live by growing on other plants which are the hosts.
- The roots of this plant absorb organic substances, minerals and water from the host by penetrating the stem up to the vascular bundles of the host.
- This causes the parasitic plant to grow faster and flourish, whereas the host is malnourished, dried and will eventually die.

### Example of parasitic plant



### Epiphytic plants

- **Epiphytic plants** are green plants which live on other plants which are the hosts.
- Epiphytic plants receive more sunlight for photosynthesis by living on taller hosts.
- These plants synthesise their own food.
- Epiphytes do not harm the host because the roots of epiphytes can absorb nutrients accumulated in the gaps of the plant's stem.
- Most epiphytes have swollen stems that are able to store a lot of water.

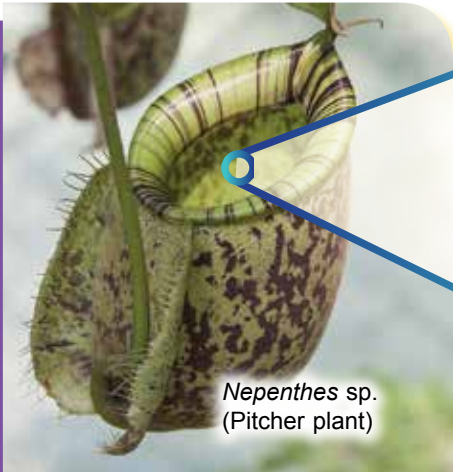
### Examples of epiphyte plants



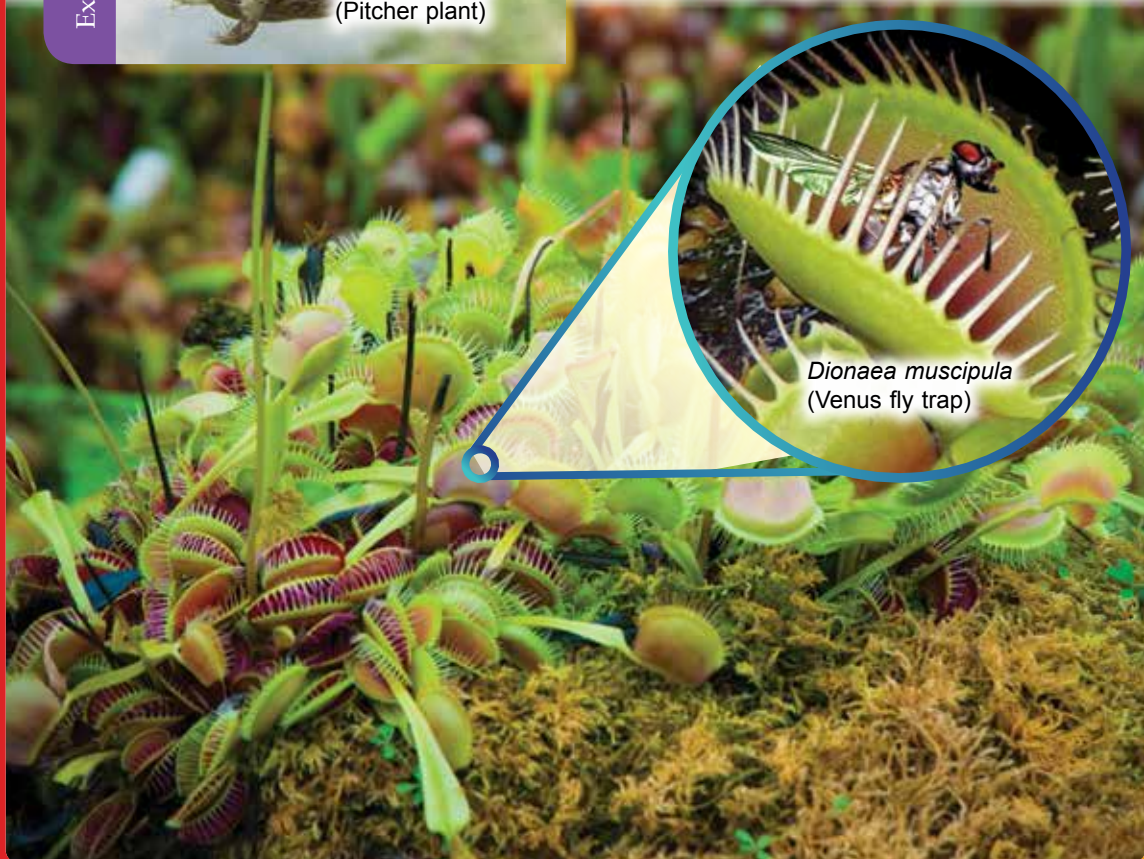
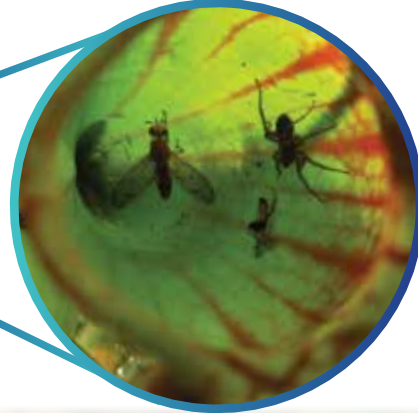
### Carnivorous plants

- **Carnivorous plants** are able to synthesise their own food by carrying out photosynthesis.
- Carnivorous plants secrete nectar and they have cups to trap their prey, typically insects.
- The prey are then slowly digested by digestive enzymes.
- The trapped animals can supply nitrogen to the plants. Nitrogen is important for growth. This is because carnivorous plants live in soil which lacks nitrogen sources.

Examples of carnivorous plants



*Nepenthes* sp.  
(Pitcher plant)



*Dionaea muscipula*  
(Venus fly trap)

## Activity 3.2



### Aim

To investigate the effects of habitat change on the growth of carnivorous, parasitic and epiphytic plants

### Materials

Pitcher plant, Indian willow plant, bird's nest fern

### Apparatus

Vases containing soil

### Procedure

1. Get a healthy pitcher plant, Indian willow plant and bird's nest fern.
2. Plant each of them inside vases containing soil.
3. Make sure each plant is provided with enough light, water and fertiliser.
4. Observe and record the growth of each plant on every week for a month.

### Discussion

1. Which of the three plants can adapt to habitat change?
2. Based on your observation, what happened to the Indian willow plant after one week? Justify.



## Bio Exploration



*Riftia pachyptila* (giant tube worm) lives on the floor of the ocean in the dark zone near hydrothermal vent. The hydrothermal vent produces water rich in chemical substances and minerals. The dark zone is a very deep zone in the sea where no light is able to reach. This worm does not depend on sunlight as its source of energy. Instead, it depends on bacteria living in its body. Hydrogen sulfide in the hydrothermal vent is oxidised by the bacteria into food and energy for the giant tube worm.



Photograph 3.4 *Riftia pachyptila*

## Formative Practice

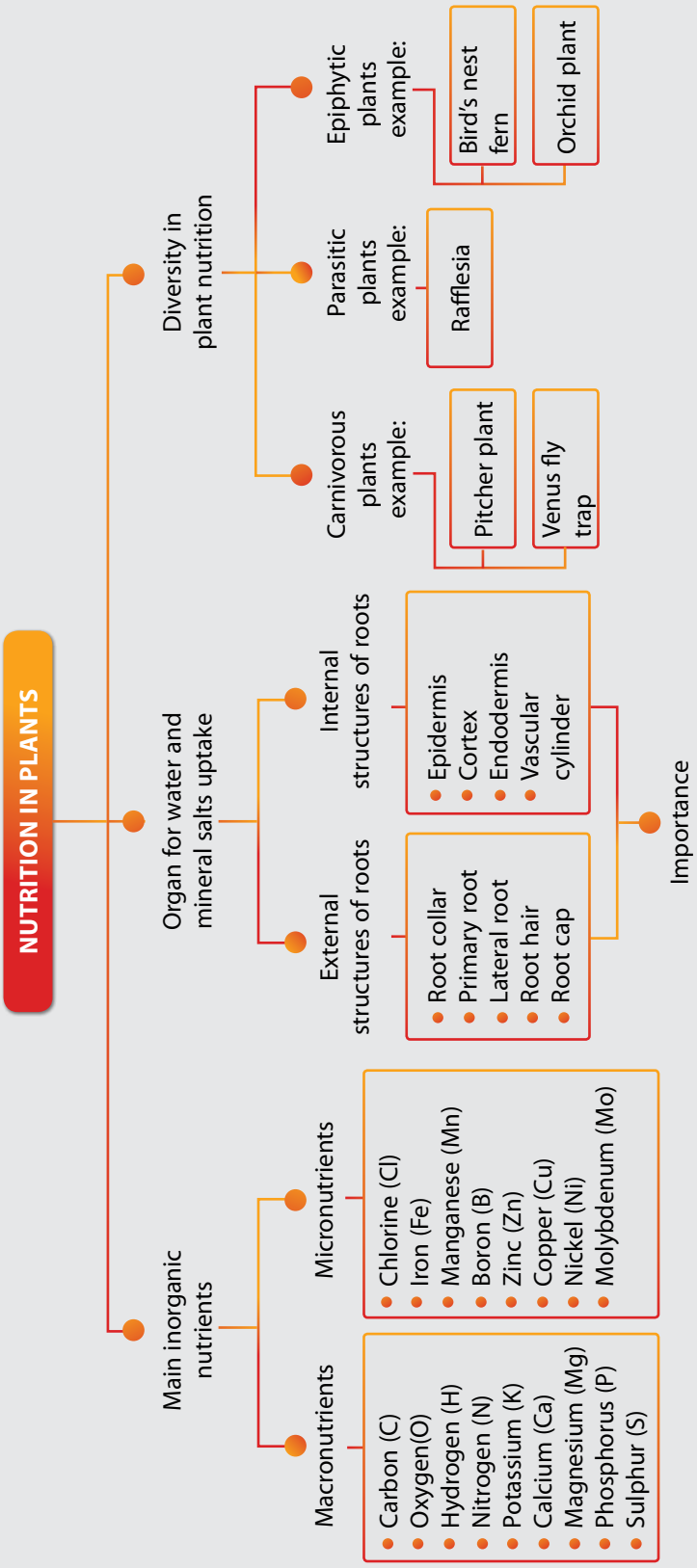
### 3.3

1. State the nutritional habits of the following plants:
  - (a) *Cuscuta* sp. (dodders)
  - (b) *Hypnum* sp. (moss)
  - (c) *Bulbophyllum* sp. (orchid)
  - (d) *Utricularia* sp. (golden floating bladderwort)
2. Differentiate between the nutritional adaptations of parasitic plants and epiphytic plants.
3. Predict what would happen to the growth of the bird's nest fern if it is exposed to direct sunlight.





# Memory Flashback



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.








Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Macronutrients and micronutrients needed by plants		
The importance of macronutrients and micronutrients in plants		
Uptake of water and mineral salts		
Nutritional adaptations of plants		

## Summative Practice

3



- A farmer uses NPK fertiliser for his chili crops. NPK fertiliser contains nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium elements which are important nutrients for crop growth and also contains micronutrients needed by plants.
  - In your opinion, what are the micronutrients contained in the fertiliser?
  - Explain the functions of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium elements towards chili plants.
  - After using the fertiliser several times, the farmer found that the leaves of the chili plants were turning darker green and the plant stem was becoming weaker.
    - What caused these plants to undergo such abnormal situation? 
    - Suggest **one** solution to overcome the situation. 
- Mrs. Rodiah uses a vase, brick shards, charcoal shards, and coconut fibres to grow an epiphytic orchid plant. The orchid plant is placed at a corner in her house.
  - What is meant by epiphytic orchid plant?
  - Why does Mrs. Rodiah use coconut fibres to plant the orchid? 
  - In your opinion, what is the main factor that needs to be considered by Mrs. Rodiah before placing the orchid plant at the corner? Explain. 
  - Why does Mrs. Rodiah not plant the orchid directly into the ground? Give suitable reasons. 

3. Mr. Ali uses a technique shown in Photograph 1 for his herb plants. He uses wicks immersed in a nutrient solution to fulfil the needs of his plants.



Wick

**Photograph 1**

- (a) What is the technique used by Mr. Ali?  
 (b) State **four** basic needs of plants to ensure Mr. Ali's plants grow well and healthily.  
 (c) Justify the usage of wicks in the technique used by Mr. Ali. 🧠  
 (d) Explain the root adaptations that enable the plants to obtain enough nutrients. 🧠
4. Photograph 2.1 and Photograph 2.2 show two types of plants which can be found in a tropical rainforest ecosystem. Both of these plants carry out different modes of nutrition. The plant in Photograph 2.1 can produce their own food by photosynthesis whereas the plant in Photograph 2.2 depends on other plants for nutrition.

**Photograph 2.1****Photograph 2.2**

- (a) State the role of the plant in Photograph 2.1 in a tropical rainforest ecosystem.  
 (b) Explain the importance of the plant in Photograph 2.2 in a tropical rainforest ecosystem. 🧠  
 (c) Explain the differences of nutritional adaptations of both plants. 🧠



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

5. Studies show that organic crops contain more nutrients as compared to normal crops but there are studies that show there is no difference in nutrient content for both crops. As an agricultural officer, justify this information. 🧠

## Chapter

# 4

# Transport in Plants

## Chapter

### Exploration

- Vascular Tissues
- Transport of Water and Mineral Salts
- Translocation
- Phytoremediation



Learning Standards



## Do You

### Know?

- What is the role of the vascular tissues in plants?
- How are water and mineral salts transported to all parts of the plant?
- What is the translocation pathway in plants?
- How do phytoremediation plants control water and soil pollution?

## The Wonders of Transport in Plants

Do you know that the *Sequoia sempervirens* is the tallest tree in the world? Every day, this tree can absorb 1 000 kg of water from the soil and transport it to the stem and leaves up to a height of 100 m. How is water transported in plants?

Like humans, plants also have an effective transportation system to absorb, transfer, store and utilise water. This system consists of a network of channels which are formed from vascular bundles.

This water and nutrient transportation pathway is similar to the vascular system which transports blood to all parts of the human body. Xylem tissues in this system start from the roots, and they are connected to the stems, branches, twigs and leaves. Phloem tissues, on the other hand, transport nutrients and sugars which are produced by the leaves to other parts of the plant such as the stem and roots to be used in cell respiration and as storage.



### Keywords



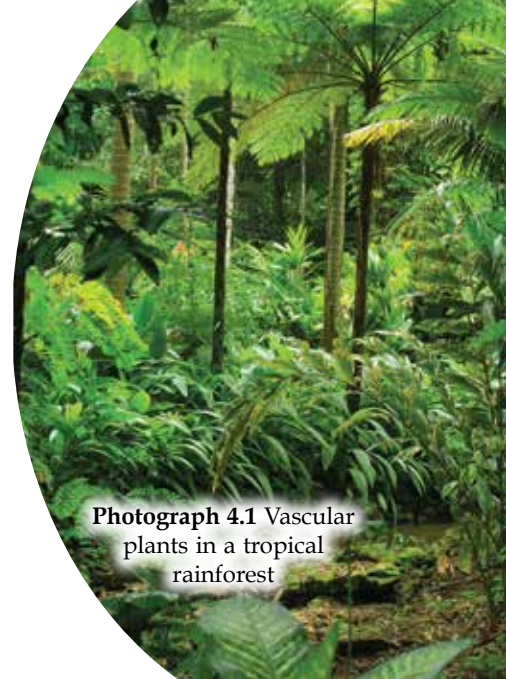
- Xylem vessel
- Sieve tube
- Companion cell
- Tracheid
- Adhesion force
- Cohesion force
- Root pressure
- Capillary action
- Guttation
- Translocation
- Phytoremediation

# 4.1 Vascular Tissues

## The Necessity of Transport in Plants

You have learnt about transport in humans and animals in Form Four. Do plants have the same transport system like humans and animals? Why do plants need a transport system as well? (Photograph 4.1).

Plants are multicellular organisms which are formed from cells that need water and nutrients. The large and tall size of the plants creates a total surface area that is insufficient for the plant to absorb its basic needs from the surroundings. In order to overcome this problem, plants have **vascular tissues** to transport water, mineral salts and nutrients to all the cells.



Photograph 4.1 Vascular plants in a tropical rainforest

### Bio Exploration



*Macrocystis pyrifera* is a brown macro alga which can grow up to 60 m high in the sea. This alga does not have any transport system (Photograph 4.2).



Photograph 4.2 *Macrocystis pyrifera*

4.1.1

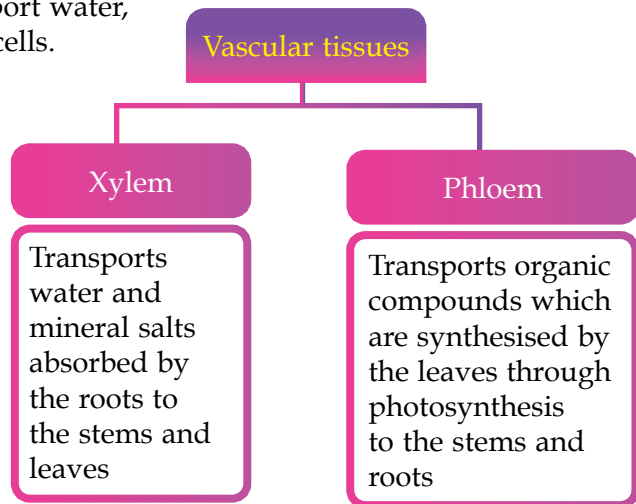
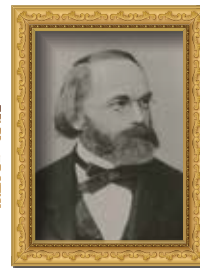


Figure 4.1 Vascular tissues

Plants which have a transport system are known as **vascular plants** (Figure 4.1). **Non-vascular plants** like alga and moss on the other hand, do not have any transport system (Photograph 4.2 and Photograph 4.3).

### History Corner

In 1858, Carl Nageli who was a botanist had introduced the names xylem and phloem as tissues in the plant transport system (Photograph 4.4).



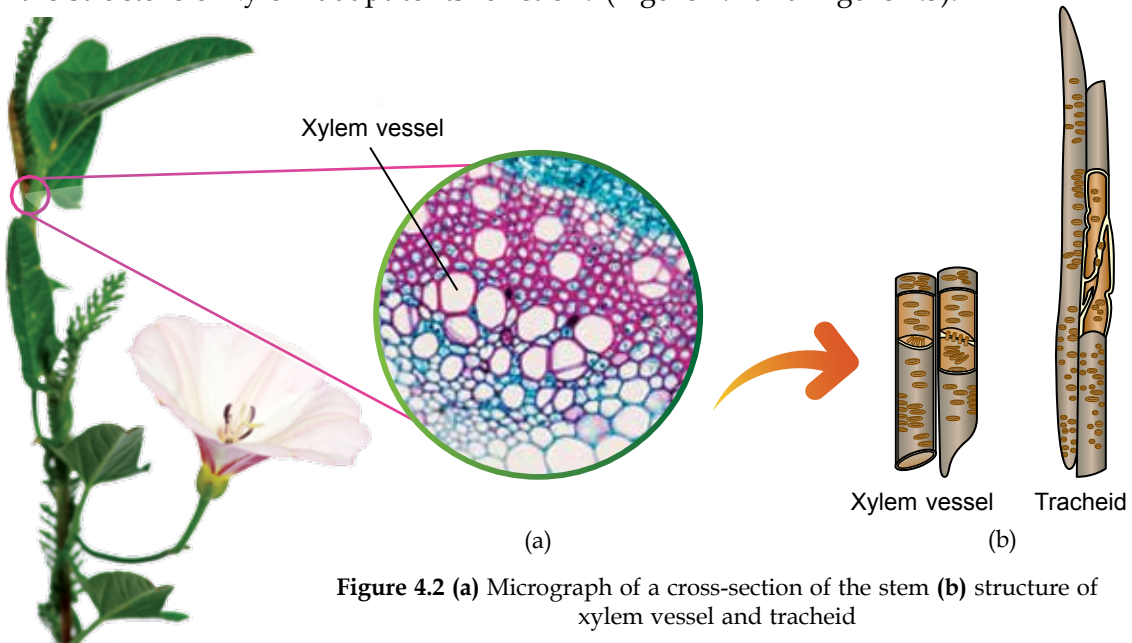
Photograph 4.4 Carl Nageli



Photograph 4.3 Moss

## Structural Adaptations of Xylem Vessels and Tracheids to Transport Water and Mineral Salts

Other than transporting water and mineral salts absorbed by the roots to the stems and leaves, xylem is also responsible to provide **mechanical support** to the plant. How does the structure of xylem adapt to its function? (Figure 4.2 and Figure 4.3).



### Xylem vessel

- Xylem vessel consists of dead cells at maturity which do not have cytoplasm.
- These cells are arranged longitudinally from end to end to form a continuous tube to allow water flow from the roots to the leaves.
- The walls of the xylem vessel have uneven **lignin thickening** to:
  - Give strength to xylem vessels to prevent them collapsing due to the tension force and pressure changes when water moves through it
  - Prevent the plant from being bent

### Tracheid

- The cell wall of **tracheid** also has lignin thickening and pits to allow water movement to adjacent cells.

Figure 4.3 The functions of xylem and tracheid structures

## Activity 4.1



### Aim

To observe the structure of xylem in a longitudinal cross-section of a celery stalk

**Materials:** Celery stalk, red dye, distilled water

**Apparatus:** 250 ml beaker, sharp knife, cover slip, glass slide, light microscope, dropper

### Procedure

1. Pour 150 ml of distilled water into a 250 ml beaker and put in 5 drops of red dye. Stir until the colour of the solution is mixed.
2. Soak a celery stalk into the beaker and let it remain there for an hour (Figure 4.4).
3. After an hour, rinse the colouring of the celery stalk by using distilled water.
4. Cut a thin layer of the stalk horizontally.
5. Place it on a glass slide which has a drop of distilled water.
6. Cover the slide with a cover slip and observe it under a light microscope by a low-power objective lens and followed by a high-power objective lens.
7. Sketch a figure to show the distribution of colouring in the celery stalk.

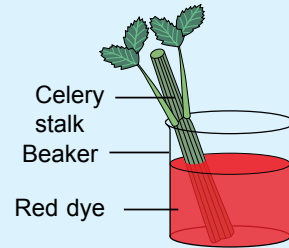


Figure 4.4 Set-up of apparatus

### Discussion

1. Name the coloured tissue.
2. How does a herbaceous plant which has no woody tissues gets its support from xylem tissues? Explain.



## Structural Adaptations of Sieve Tubes and Companion Cells to the Transport of Organic Substances

Phloem tissues transport and distribute dissolved organic compounds such as sucrose, amino acids and plant hormones to all parts of the plant. Unlike xylem, phloem is a living cell because it has cytoplasm (Figure 4.5).

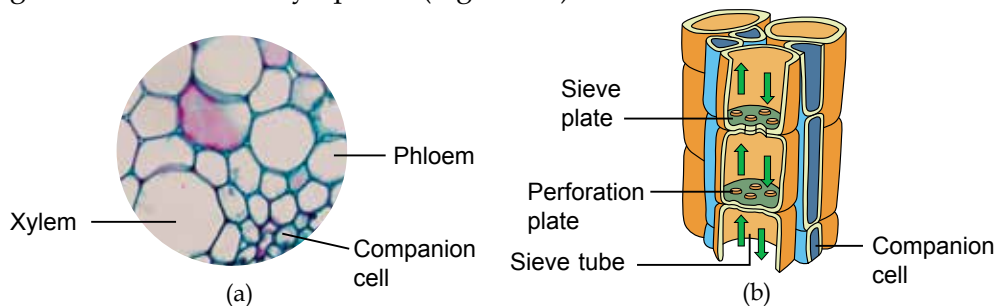


Figure 4.5 (a) Micrograph of a cross-section of a stem and (b) phloem structure

How do sieve tubes and companion cells adapt to their functions?

- Sieve tubes do not have nuclei, ribosomes or vacuoles. This allows sucrose molecules to pass through sieve tubes easily.
- On both ends of the sieve tube, there is a sieve plate that has pores through which organic compounds can flow from one sieve tube to the next.
- Companion cells contain mitochondria to provide energy in the form of ATP to transport sucrose from the leaf to the sieve tube through active transport.



# Formative Practice

4.1

1. Do all plants need a transport system? Explain.
2. A tree is attacked by a type of bacteria which damages its xylem vessels. Predict the effects to the tree.



3. Transport of organic compounds such as sucrose by active transport along the sieve tubes needs a lot of energy. How does this process happen even though the sieve tubes have very few mitochondria?

## 4.2 Transport of Water and Mineral Salts

Water is very important to the growth of plants because water helps to move mineral salts from the soil to the stems and leaves. Other than that, water also helps in giving turgidity to plant cells so that the plant remains fresh.

Have you ever thought of how water is moved through the xylem to the plant stems which can reach up to hundreds of metres high? The water and mineral salts movement from the soil to the leaves are helped by **transpirational pull**, **capillary action** and **root pressure** (Figure 4.6).

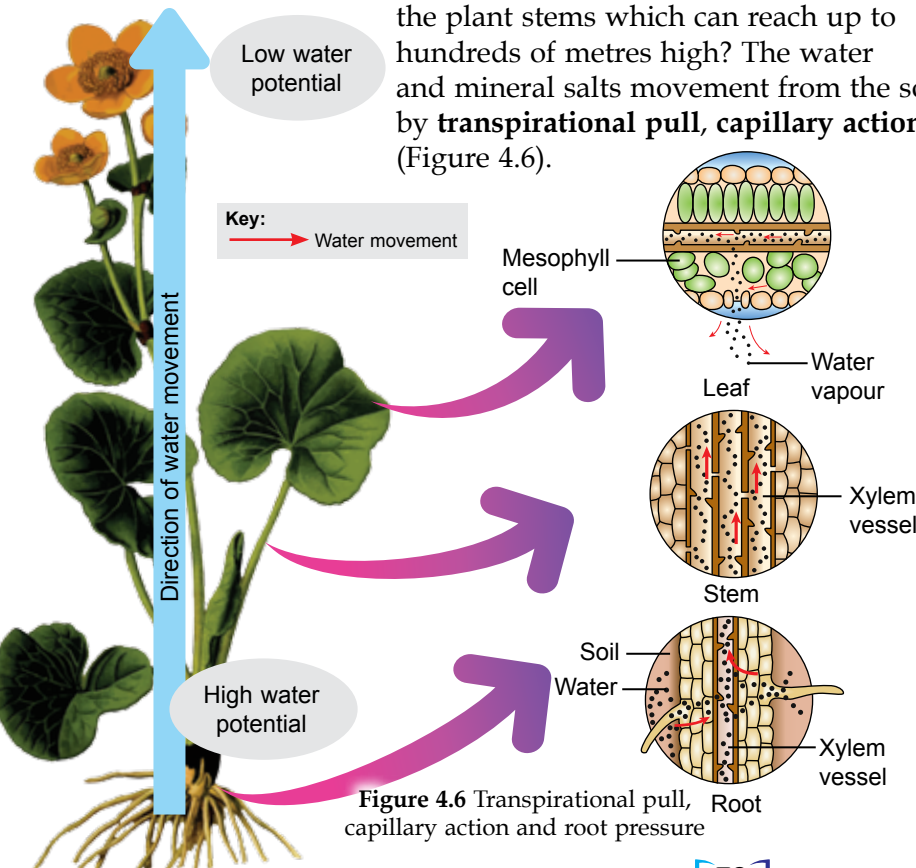
### ACTIVITY ZONE

Build a model of the vascular tissue system of plants using the following materials:

- Long ruler
- Scissors
- Cellophane tape
- Rubber band
- Cardboard tubes of toilet paper rolls
- Wooden stick
- Drinking straw (big and small in size)



**Photograph 4.5**  
Example of a model



**Figure 4.6** Transpirational pull, capillary action and root pressure

#### Transpirational pull

Produced when water that is evaporated from the **stoma**, pulls water from the **leaves**.

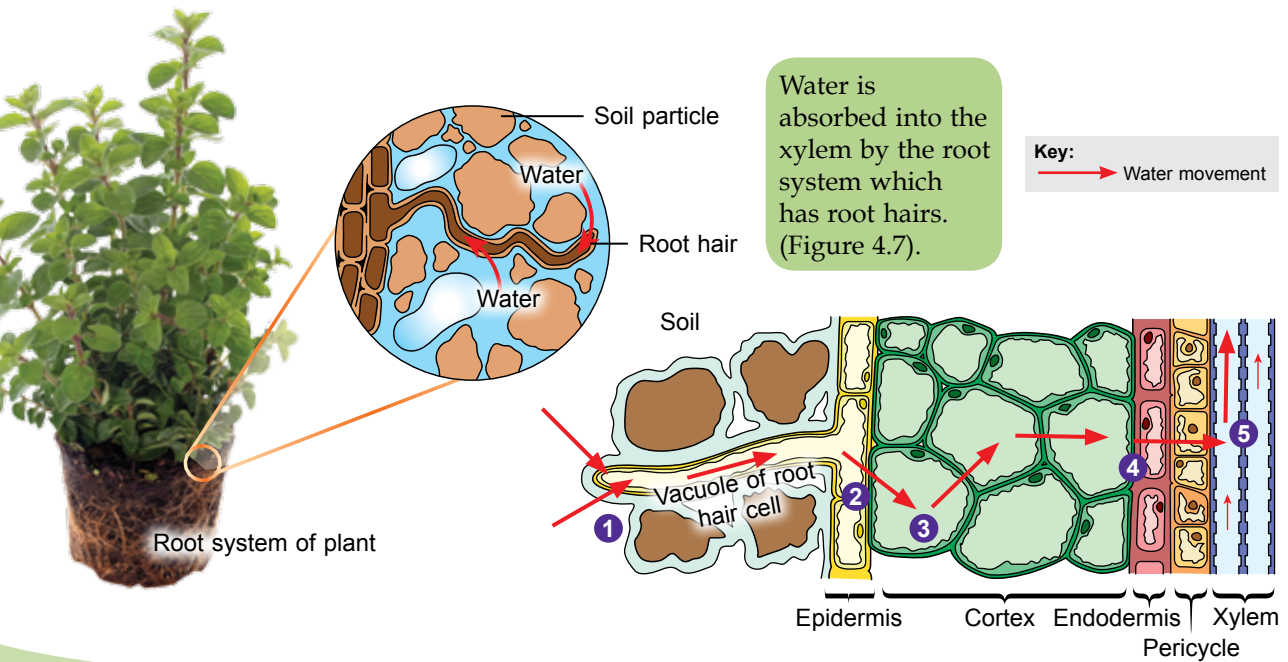
#### Capillary action

Capillary action is produced from **adhesion force** and **cohesion force** of water molecules which moves water upwards in the **stem against gravity**.

#### Root pressure

Moves water from the soil into the xylem vessels of the **root** via osmosis.

## How Does Water Move from the Soil to the Xylem Vessel?



**1**  
The water potential in the **root hair cells** is lower compared to water in the soil. This is because the mineral ions are actively pumped by the root hair cells into the **vacuole**, causing the cell sap of the root hair to have **low water potential** compared to the soil.

**2**  
Water from the soil diffuses into the root hair cells and **epidermal cells** via **osmosis**.

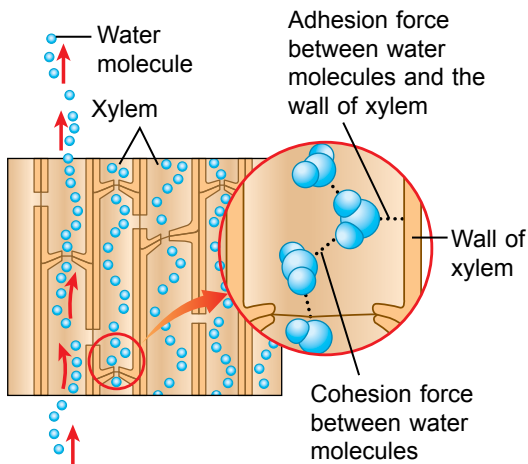
**5**  
This causes root pressure to push water into the **xylem vessels** of the root and then into the xylem vessels of the stem.

**4**  
This condition causes osmosis to continuously occur throughout the **cortex, endodermis** and **pericycle** layers.

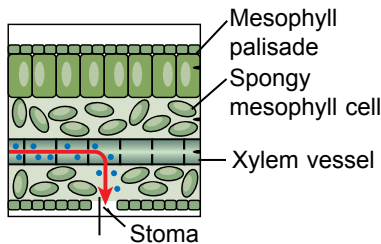
**3**  
The high water potential in the root hair cells causes the water to diffuse from the root hair cells into the cortex via osmosis.

Figure 4.7 Water movement from the soil to the xylem vessel

How does Water Move in the Xylem Vessels?



(a) Water movement in the xylem vessels of stem



Water vapour released to the surrounding by transpiration

(b) Water movement in the xylem vessel of the leaves

Key: Water movement

- For tall plants, root pressure cannot transport water to the leaves, especially the shoots.
- Therefore, the movement of water molecule in the xylem vessel is also helped by the **capillary action of xylem** produced by **adhesion** and **cohesion forces** and also **transpirational pull**.
- Adhesion and cohesion forces produce a pulling force which continuously moves water in the **xylem vessel**.

- When transpiration process happens, water diffuse out as water vapour from the spaces between the cells to the surroundings through opened stoma.
- **Spongy mesophyll cells** lose water and they have **low water potential** towards adjacent cells.
- Water molecules diffuse from neighbouring cells via spongy mesophyll cells by **osmosis**.
- This movement produces a force called **transpirational pull** that pulls water molecules in the xylem vessel of the leaves to the outside of the leaves.

Figure 4.8 Water movement in xylem vessel of stem and leaf

### Bio Exploration

Water movement from the root cells to the xylem happens in two ways:

- **simplast pathway** - water moves through cytoplasm and plasmodesmata
- **apoplast pathway** - water moves through the spaces between cellulose fibres at the cell wall

Because the cell walls in the endodermis layer have Casparian strips which are not permeable to water, water cannot move through the apoplast pathway but through simplast pathway.

Key:

Apoplast pathway

Simplast pathway

Figure 4.9 Simplast and apoplast pathways

**Problem Statement**

What are the effects of root pressure towards water transport?

**Aim**

To investigate the effects of root pressure towards water transport

**Hypothesis**

Root pressure helps in moving water from the soil to the shoots.

**Materials**

Fresh balsam plant in a vase, petroleum jelly, soil

**Apparatus**

Knife, rubber tube, retort stand and clamp, marker pen, water manometer

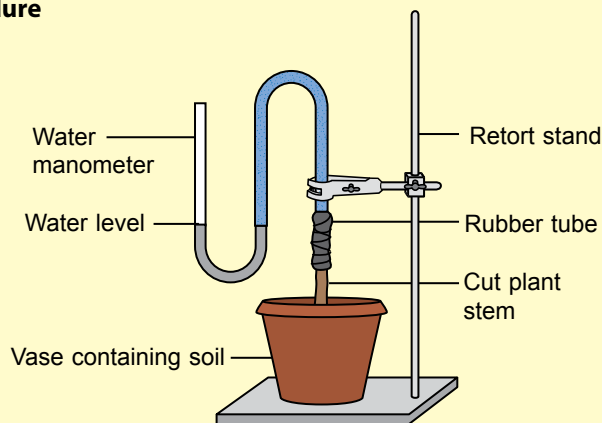
**Procedure**


Figure 4.10 Set-up of apparatus


**PRE CAUTIONS**

1. Soil in the vase needs to have enough minerals.
2. Leave the apparatus (Figure 4.10) in a cold and damp area.

1. Water the balsam plant in the vase and keep it overnight.
2. The next morning, cut the stem of the balsam plant 5 cm from the soil surface.
3. Using a rubber tube, connect the end of the cut stem with a manometer. Make sure the connection is neat.
4. Apply some petroleum jelly to the connected parts to ensure the connection is airtight.
5. Mark the initial water level at the arm of the manometer.
6. Leave the apparatus for about 30 minutes.
7. Observe the water level in the arm of the manometer.

**Discussion**

1. What is the purpose of watering the soil before the experiment is carried out? 
2. Compare the water potential of root cells with the water potential of the soil.
3. What is the effect of the difference in the water potential of the root cells and the water potential in the soil?
4. Why is root pressure needed in plants?

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## 4.2

## The Effect of Transpirational Pull on Water Transport

## EXPERIMENT

**Problem statement**

What is the effect of transpirational pull on water transport?

**Aim**

To investigate the effect of transpirational pull on water transport

**Hypothesis**

Transpirational pull moves water from roots to leaves.

**Materials**

A plant with leaves and roots, water, cooking oil, petroleum jelly

**Apparatus**

A bottle with an opening at the edge, side tube, cork, marker pen

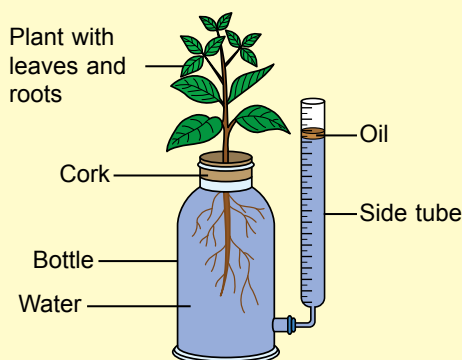
**Procedure**

Figure 4.11 Set-up of apparatus

1. Connect the bottle to a side tube as in Figure 4.11.
2. Fill the bottle with water.
3. Put a few drops of cooking oil on the water surface inside the side tube.
4. Carefully, put in the plant stem with the roots through the hole of the cork.
5. Apply petroleum jelly at the connection of the plant stem and the cork to ensure it is airtight.
6. Cover the mouth of the bottle using a cork with the roots of the plant fully immersed in water. Then, apply the petroleum jelly at the connection to ensure it is airtight.
7. Mark the initial water level in the side tube using a marker pen.
8. Put the apparatus under the sunlight for about 30 minutes.
9. Observe the changes of the water level in the side tube.

**Discussion**

1. State the need of putting cooking oil on the water surface in the side tube.
2. What is the inference that can be made from this experiment?
3. If the experiment is repeated by reducing the number of leaf lamina of the plant, predict the observation that can be made regarding the water level in the side tube. Explain your answer.

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## Activity 4.2



### Aim

To produce multi-coloured flowers by applying the concept of water transport in the xylem and sell the products in school

### Materials

Fresh white rose flowers, fabric dyes of red, yellow, green and blue

### Apparatus

Knife, 50 ml measuring cylinder

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Produce a variety of coloured flowers by applying the concept of water transport in the xylem vessel. You can use the above mentioned apparatus and materials.
3. Sell your group's product in your school (Photograph 4.6).



Photograph 4.6 Variety of coloured flowers

### Discussion

1. Why are white rose flowers used?
2. State the vascular tissue involved in flower colouration.
3. These flowers with a variety of colours wilt faster compared to the original flowers if they are left in a vase containing water. Why?



## Guttation in Plants

**Guttation** is a secretion of water droplets through a special structure at the end of the leaf veins without involving the stomata caused by a high root pressure (Photograph 4.7).



Guttation occurs when the root pressure and the rate of transpiration is low. This condition usually occurs at night and early morning when the air humidity is high and the surrounding temperature is low. The **root pressure** formed pushes water to the leaves and stems of the plant.

Can you compare between guttation and transpiration? (Table 4.1).

Photograph 4.7 Guttation in plants

## Comparison between Guttation and Transpiration

**Table 4.1** The comparison between guttation and transpiration

Guttation	Transpiration
	
<b>Similarities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both processes occur through the leaf.</li> <li>• Both processes cause permanent water loss from the plant.</li> </ul>	
<b>Differences</b>	
Guttation happens at night and early morning.	Transpiration happens on hot and windy days.
Guttation only happens in herbaceous plants.	Transpiration happens in all plants.
Water is released in the form of water droplets.	Water is released as water vapour.
Water is released through a special structure at the end of the leaf veins.	Water is released through stomata.
Guttation happens when root pressure is high.	Transpiration is controlled by the stomatal opening and closing.
Guttation releases water that is rich in minerals.	Transpiration releases pure water.

## The Condition of Plants that Do Not Undergo Transpiration and Guttation

### Effects towards plants that do not undergo guttation

- Without guttation, effective root pressure cannot be maintained. Therefore, water absorption by root hair cells is disrupted in a surrounding with high relative humidity.
- Without guttation, plant waste substances cannot be eliminated.
- If guttation does not occur, the leaf vein pressure becomes high and causes the leaf vein to burst. This leads to the leaves being exposed to pathogen and eventually fall.

### Effects towards plants that do not undergo transpiration

- Without transpiration, optimum temperature of plants cannot be maintained. Increase in temperature can denature enzymes and disrupt biochemical processes such as photosynthesis and respiration.
- Without transpiration, mineral ions such as potassium ions cannot be transported from the roots to the leaves for photosynthesis.
- Without transpiration, water transport throughout the plants will be disrupted and causing the plants to wilt.
- Plants can die in the long run.

## Activity 4.3



INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATION

### Aim

To use mind map to compare and contrast between guttation and transpiration

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Watch a video about guttation and transpiration by scanning the QR code at the side.
3. Note down important points and build a mind map to compare and contrast between guttation and transpiration on a mahjong paper.
4. Present your mind map in class.



**Guttation and transpiration**  
<http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/TranspirationandGuttation.mp4>

## Formative Practice

### 4.2

1. State the factors involved in the water and mineral salts pathway from soil to leaves.
2. Give the definition of guttation and state its importance.
3. What is the difference between guttation and transpiration?



4.

On a hot and windy condition, water absorption by the roots and water transport in the xylem becomes faster.

Do you agree with the statement? Justify.

## 4.3

## Translocation

You have learnt about transport system in the human body and animals in Form Four. How is the transport system in plants which transports substances required by the cells to all parts that need them? What is the process involved?

### Definition of Translocation

**Translocation** is a process of transporting organic substances such as sucrose, amino acids and hormones in the phloem from the leaves to other parts of the plant such as the roots and stem.

### Bio Exploration

Pesticides such as aphids suck sap from the phloem of plant stems. If the sap collected is analysed, it is found to contain sucrose and amino acids. This shows that translocation happens in the phloem (Photograph 4.8).



**Photograph 4.8**  
Aphids suck liquid from phloem



## The Necessity of Translocation in Plants

Translocation helps in transporting photosynthetic products from the leaves to other parts of the plant that need them for growth and respiration such as roots, fruits, tip of shoots or developing flowers. Other than that, translocation also transports excess photosynthetic products to other parts of the plants such as rhizomes, tubers and bulbs (Figure 4.12).

## Pathways of Translocation in Plants

7

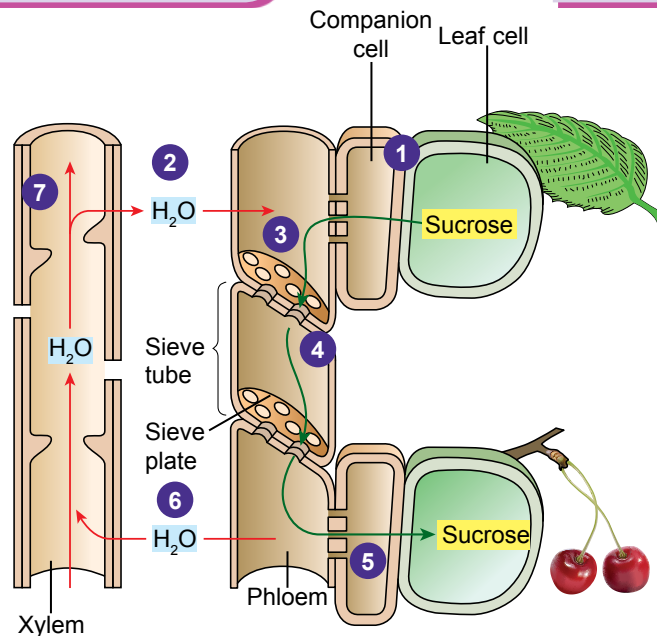
**Transpiration** pulls water along the xylem vessel against the direction of gravitational pull.

1

**Sucrose** is actively transported into the sieve tube.

6

The high water potential in the phloem causes the water to diffuse in order for it to return into the xylem by osmosis.



2

The transport of sucrose into the sieve tube through the companion cell from the leaf cells reduces the water potential in the sieve tube. This causes water to diffuse from the xylem into the sieve tube via osmosis.

5

The phloem sap (sucrose) is transported from the sieve tube to other parts such as stems, roots, shoots, fruits and tubers by active transport.

4

The increase in the hydrostatic pressure causes the phloem sap to be pushed along the sieve tube to other organs of the plant.

3

The water diffusion increases the **hydrostatic pressure** in the sieve tube.

### TERM ANALYSIS

Translocation originates from Greek words,

- **Trans** = crossing
- **Locus** = site or place

#### Key:

- Water movement
- Sucrose movement

Figure 4.12 Translocation pathway in plants

**Problem statement**

What is the role of phloem tissues in the transport of organic substances?

**Aim**

To investigate the role of phloem tissues in the transport of organic substances

**Hypothesis**

The upper part of the removed ring bark from a plant stem becomes swollen and the lower part of the removed ring bark shrinks after a few weeks.

**Variables****Manipulated variable**

The part of the removed ring bark

**Responding variable**

The condition of the upper part and lower part of the removed ring bark from a plant stem

**Constant variable**

Hibiscus plant

**Materials**

Hibiscus plant, petroleum jelly

**Apparatus**

Ruler, knife

**Procedure**

1. Cut and remove a ring-shaped part of woody bark from a branch of a hibiscus flower (Figure 4.13).
2. Apply petroleum jelly at the ring part
3. Water the plant every day and leave it for three weeks.
4. Record your observation into the table of result below.

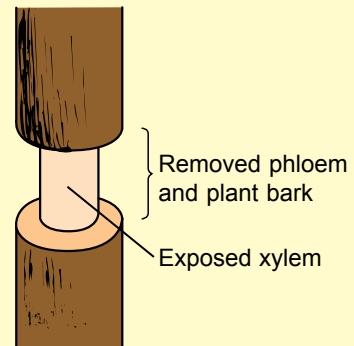


Figure 4.13 Removal of part of plant bark

**Result**

Observation	Beginning of the experiment	After three weeks
(a) Upper part of the ring		
(b) Lower part of the ring		

**Discussion**

1. What is the purpose of:
  - (a) Ringing the plant stem?
  - (b) Applying petroleum jelly to the exposed part?
2. What are the structures removed when the branch is ringed?
3. Predict what will happen to the hibiscus plant after six months.

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## Formative Practice 4.3

1. State the definition of translocation.
2. What is the role of translocation in plants?
3. How does translocation occur from the leaves to the roots? Explain.
4. Compare sucrose concentration in a leaf cell and sieve tube. What is the effect of the difference?
5. How does translocation affect a plant's yield?

## 4.4 Phytoremediation

The environment and human health can be affected if waste water from domestic, agricultural, breeding and industrial activities is not treated. Water supply will be filled with heavy metals and pollutants. The need of management and waste water treatment is important in order to overcome the lack of clean water, issue of water pollution and increasing cost of water treatment.

To overcome these problems, phytoremediation method is one of the alternatives in waste water treatment by eliminating heavy metals and also trapping harmful nutrients and microorganisms. Phytoremediation treatment uses aquatic plants that can absorb heavy metals and nutrients contained in waste water.

### TERM ANALYSIS

Phytoremediation originates from the words

**Phyton** = plant

**Remediate** = repair

### Definition of Phytoremediation

**Phytoremediation** is one of the treatment methods which uses plants for the purpose of degradation, extraction or elimination of pollute substances from soil and water.

Among the examples of plants used for phytoremediation is *Eichhornia crassipes* (water hyacinth). This plant has long roots which can accumulate heavy metals such as copper and lead in water (Photograph 4.9). What are other examples of phytoremediation uses in our daily life?

### Bio Exploration



The blooming of water hyacinths in water can cause oxygen to be depleted thus making the fish unable to breed.

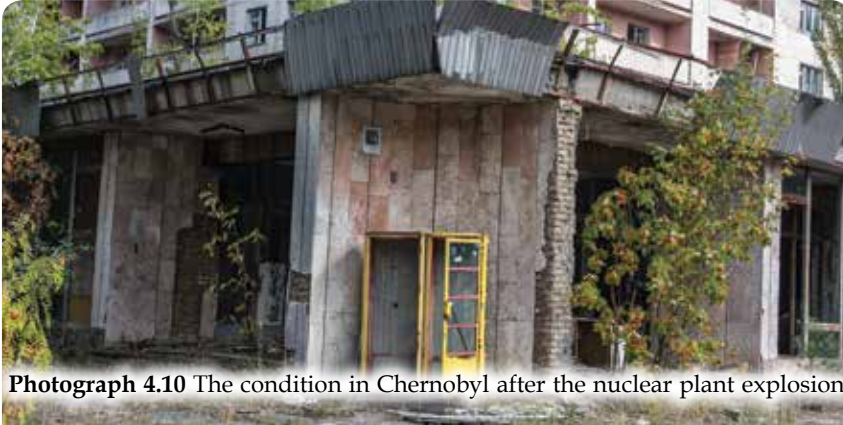
Photograph 4.9 *Eichhornia crassipes* (water hyacinth)

## The Uses of Phytoremediation in Life

1

Sunflowers (Photograph 4.11) are used for **remediation of soil** polluted by the explosion of the **nuclear plant in Chernobyl, Russia**.

Sunflower acts as a **hyperaccumulator** which can eliminate heavy metals such as **zinc, chromium, copper, lead and nickel** and also radioactive substances such as **caesium and strontium**.



Photograph 4.10 The condition in Chernobyl after the nuclear plant explosion

### History Corner

On 26th April 1986, the fourth reactor of the nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, Russia exploded during a safety test. Smoke filled with radioactive substances flew as far as 2334 km. (Photograph 4.10).



Photograph 4.11 Sunflower plants

2

There are aquatic plants that are suitable to **treat waste water** in a waste plant (Photograph 4.12) through the phytoremediation method. For example, *Pistia stratiotes* (water lettuce plant) (Photograph 4.13), which has a fast growth rate, can accumulate heavy metals and absorb nutrients in the waste plant.



Photograph 4.12 Waste water plant



Photograph 4.13 Water lettuce

3

The roots of ground water spinach (Photograph 4.14) are able to absorb mercury from the soil whereas the roots of river water spinach are able to absorb heavy metals such as cadmium from the water.



Photograph 4.14 Water spinach

## 4.4

## The Effectiveness of Phytoremediation Plants in Controlling Water Pollution

## EXPERIMENT

**Problem statement**

Are phytoremediation plants effective in controlling water pollution?

**Aim**

To study the effectiveness of phytoremediation plants in controlling water pollution

**Hypothesis**

The roots of common water hyacinth can absorb ammonia found in lake water.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** The presence of water hyacinths

**Responding variable:** Reading of ammonia at the end of the experiment

**Constant variable:** Volume of lake water

**Materials:** *Eichhornia crassipes* (water hyacinths), 10 litre of lake water, 100 ml of 10% ammonium chloride solution, tap water, ammonia test kit

**Apparatus:** Two glass containers with a 5 litre capacity

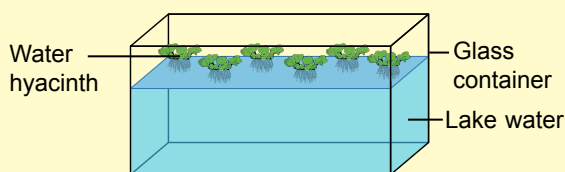
**Procedure**

Figure 4.14 Apparatus set-up for phytoremediation

**Bio Exploration**

Ammonia test kits can be obtained from aquaculture stores or aquarium stores.

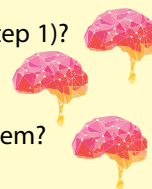
1. Remove dirt and mud from the water hyacinths.
2. Fill the two glass containers with 5 litres of lake water and label them A and B.
3. Insert 50 ml of 10% ammonium chloride solution into each container.
4. Record the initial reading of ammonia in both containers using the ammonia test kit.
5. Put six water hyacinths from step 1 into container A (Figure 4.14).
6. Leave both glass containers at room temperature.
7. Record the final reading of ammonia in containers A and B after seven days using the ammonia test kit.
8. Record the reading of ammonia in a table.

**Result**

Glass container	Reading of ammonia in the lake water	
	Beginning of the experiment	End of the experiment
A		
B		

**Discussion**

1. Why must the common water hyacinths be washed first (step 1)?
2. Name another plant that can absorb ammonia from water.
3. What is the effect of ammonia towards the aquatic ecosystem?

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**Problem statement**

Are phytoremediation plants effective in controlling soil pollution?

**Aim**

To study the effectiveness of phytoremediation plants in controlling soil contamination

**Hypothesis**

The roots of water spinach can absorb nutrients such as ammonia in soil.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** The presence of water spinach

**Responding variable:** Reading of ammonia in the soil at the end of the experiment

**Constant variable:** Mass of black soil

**Materials:** Water spinach, 5 kg of food wastes, 50 ml of 2 M potassium chloride solution, plastic container, 5 kg of black soil, distilled water, ammonia test kit

**Apparatus:** 100 ml beaker, oven

**Procedure**

1. Flatten a thin layer of 5 kg of black soil on a plastic sheet and dry it by using an oven.
2. Put 2.5 kg of black soil in a plastic container and label it as container A.
3. Put the remaining 2.5 kg of black soil in another plastic container and label it as container B.
4. Determine the ammonia content of the soil in containers A and B:
  - (a) Put 7 g of black soil from containers A and B in different conical flasks.
  - (b) Mix 50 ml of 2 M potassium chloride solution into two different conical flasks and shake them.
  - (c) Filter the mixture into a 100 ml beaker.
  - (d) Put 20 ml of distilled water into the filtrate.
  - (e) Determine the concentration of ammonia in the filtrate using an ammonia test kit.
5. Mix 2.5 kg of food waste with soil mixture in container A so that the mixture is even.
6. Repeat step 5 for the soil mixture in container B.
7. Transfer 20 water spinach stalks into container A while container B is left without a water spinach plant as a control set.
8. Place containers A and B in a warm but sheltered area.
9. Put equal amount of water everyday into containers A and B for two weeks.
10. After two weeks, repeat step 4 to test for ammonia content in containers A and B.
11. Record the final readings of ammonia in a table.

**Result**

Glass container	Reading of ammonia in the soil	
	Beginning of the experiment	End of the experiment
A		
B		

**Discussion**

1. Why must the soil sample be dried before the experiment begins?
2. What is the significance of using water spinach in this experiment?

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.



# Formative Practice

4.4

1. What does phytoremediation mean?

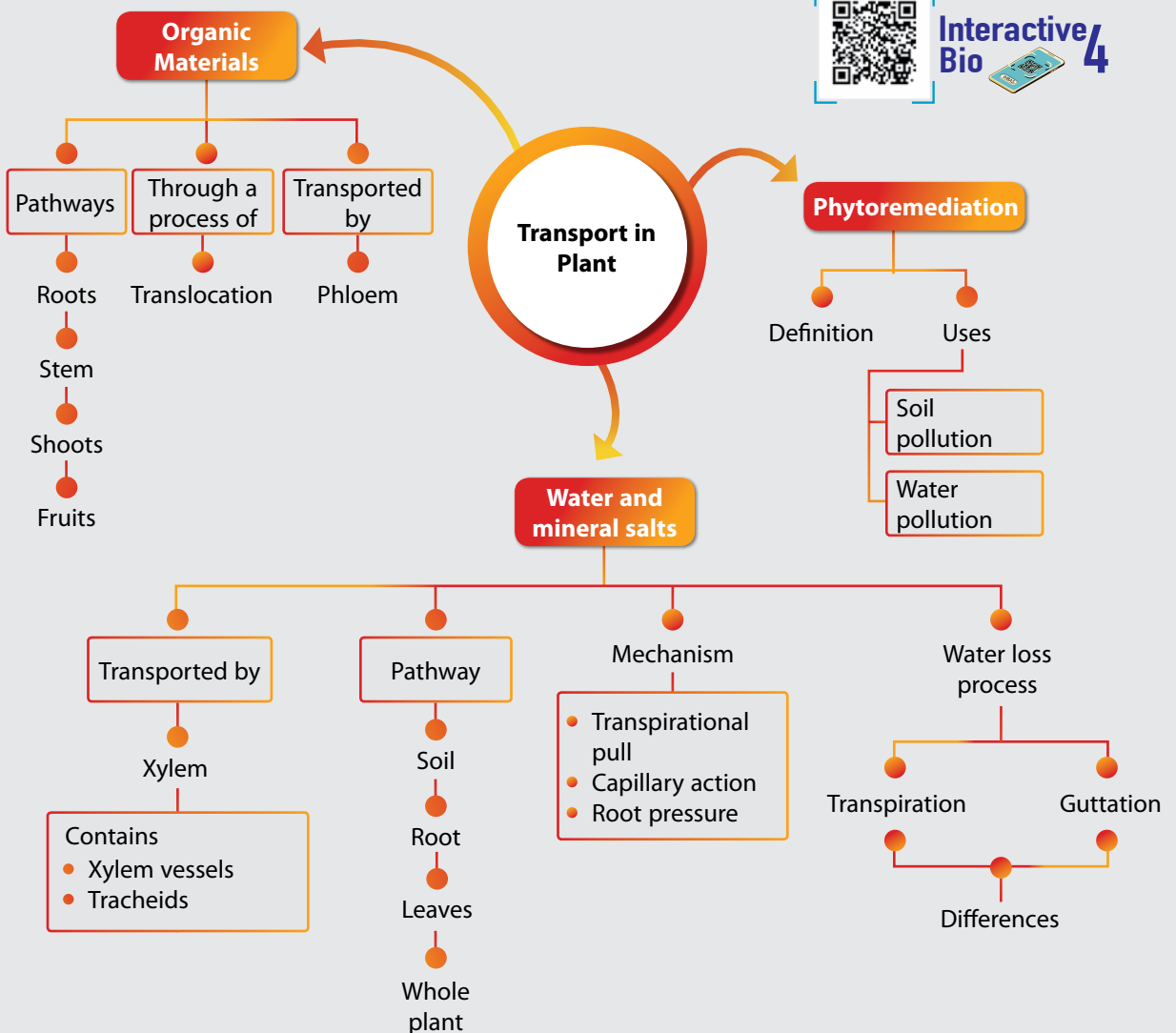
2. Name **two** uses of phytoremediation in daily life.



## Memory Flashback



Interactive Bio 4



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.

Important concepts	Very good	Try again
The necessity of transport in plants		
Structural adaptations of xylem vessels and tracheids to transport water and mineral salts		
Structural adaptations of sieve tubes and companion cells to the transport of organic substances		
Factors involved in the pathways of water and mineral salts from the soil to the leaves, including transpirational pull, capillary action and root pressure		
Guttation in plants		
Comparison between guttation and transpiration in plants		
Condition of plants that do not undergo transpiration and guttation		
The definition of translocation		
The necessity of translocation in plants		
The pathways of translocation in plants		
The definition of phytoremediation		
The uses of phytoremediation in life		
The effectiveness of phytoremediation plants in controlling water and soil pollution		

## Summative Practice

4

- Are xylem vessels living or dead structures? Give a reason for your answer.
  - What is the main function of the xylem vessel? State **three** structural adaptations of the xylem vessels and their functions.
  - How are the adaptations in the roots of plants similar to the adaptations of the small intestines in humans for nutrient absorption? Explain.
  - Systemic pesticides could be absorbed and carried throughout the whole plant. Does spraying pesticides systematically onto leaves kill insects such as aphids that primarily feed on the shoots of plants? Explain.





2. Photosynthesis product such as sucrose is transported by the phloem through translocation from the leaves to other parts of the plants such as the seeds, fruit, roots and tubers.
  - (a) Describe the pathway of sucrose molecules as it is transported from the leaves to other part of the plant such as the fruit.
  - (b) Plan an experiment using aphid to prove that the translocation of sucrose and amino acids occur in the phloem.
3. Photograph 1 shows the aftermath of the nuclear plant explosion in Chernobyl, Russia, in 1986.



**Photograph 1** Chernobyl nuclear plant in Russia

- (a) One of the methods used to treat the soil after the explosion is by removing pollutants through plants. What is the method called?
- (b) Suggest **one** type of plant that can be used for the method mentioned in 3(a).
- (c) Mr. Sani is a modern farmer who farms near to an industrial area. Mr. Sani digs a trench to provide irrigation water for his plants. He also plants common water hyacinths in the trench. Justify Mr. Sani's actions.



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

4. Photograph 2 shows Lake A, an artificial lake that is located near a market. More than 3000 fish from various species were released into this lake to propagate fishing activities. When the fish were matured enough to be caught, the lake was found to contain high amounts of lead. Imagine you work as a chemical engineer for the city council of that area, suggest one method to solve this problem. Plan an experiment to test the effectiveness of your method.



**Photograph 2** Lake A

Chapter

5

# Response in Plants

Chapter

Exploration

- Types of Responses
- Phytohormone
- Application of Phytohormones in Agriculture



Learning Standards



Do You

Know?

- Are responses of plants similar to responses in humans and animals?
- What stimulates a plant to respond to its surroundings?
- What is a phytohormone?
- How can a phytohormone be commercialised?

## Effective Microorganism (EM) Technology

**E**ffective Microorganisms (EM) are mixed cultures of anaerobic microorganisms that are used in the agricultural and livestock industries to increase quality and yield production.

Yeast is one of the many microorganisms present in an EM mix. Yeast produces hormones and enzymes which act as bioactive substances to increase the cell division activities in plant and root cells. Apart from that, yeast also increases the rate of photosynthesis in plants, stimulating more production of flowers and fruits.



### Keywords



- ▶ Auxin
- ▶ Ethylene
- ▶ Photonasty
- ▶ Phototropism
- ▶ Phytohormone
- ▶ Geotropism
- ▶ Nastic movement
- ▶ Tropism movement
- ▶ Hydrotropism
- ▶ Chemotropism
- ▶ Nyctinasty
- ▶ Seismonasty
- ▶ Cytokinin
- ▶ Thermonasty
- ▶ Thigmotropism

# 5.1 Types of Responses

Responding towards stimuli is a characteristic of organisms to ensure survival. Plants, like humans and animals can adapt to their surroundings. How do plants respond to changes in surrounding? What stimulate plants to respond? (Figure 5.1).



Figure 5.1 Plant response

You have learnt about plant responses in Form 3. Can you state the types of responses in plants? Normally, plants respond to surrounding stimuli are known as growth responses. There are two types of responses, **tropism** responses and **nastic** responses.

## Types of Plant Responses

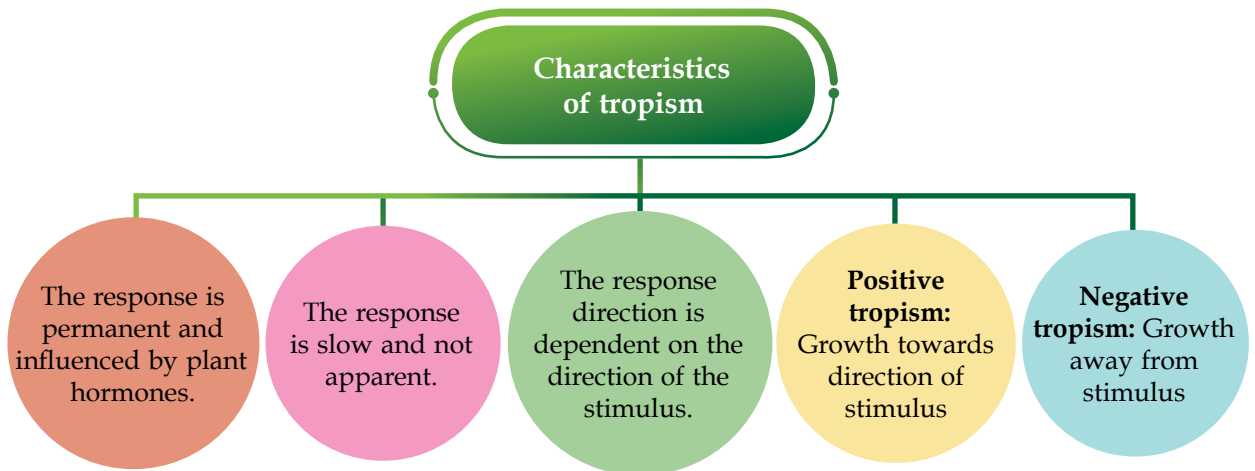
### Tropism Responses

**Tropism responses** are the responses of certain parts of a plant such as **roots** and **shoots** that respond towards or away from a stimulus. Can you explain the root response in Photograph 5.1 below? There are several types of tropism in plants, which are **thigmotropism**, **geotropism**, **hydrotropism**, **phototropism** and **chemotropism**.

#### TERM ANALYSIS

The word tropism comes from the Greek word 'tropos' which means a turning.

Photograph 5.1 Roots show positive geotropism



**Figure 5.2** Characteristics of tropism in plants.

## Types of Tropism

### Thigmotropism

**Thigmotropism** is the plant response to **touch**.

Tendrils exhibit positive thigmotropism by coiling or wrapping around an object such as a wooden stake for support (Photograph 5.2).



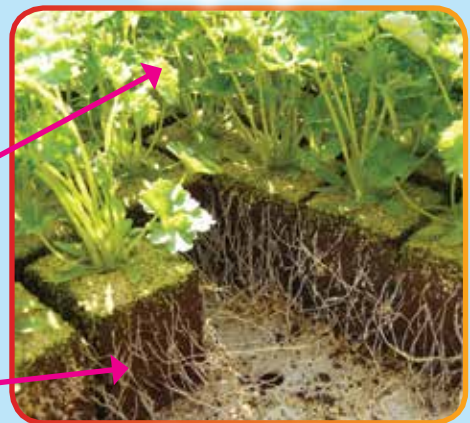
**Photograph 5.2** An example of thigmotropism

### Geotropism

**Geotropism** is the plant response to **gravity** (Photograph 5.3).

Shoots show negative geotropism.

Roots show positive geotropism.



**Photograph 5.3** An example of geotropism

## Hydrotropism

**Hydrotropism** is the plant response to **water**.

Roots show positive hydrotropism because they grow towards water (Photograph 5.4).

**Photograph 5.4** An example of hydrotropism

## Phototropism

**Phototropism** is the plant response to **light**.

Shoots show positive phototropism because they grow towards light (Photograph 5.5).

**Photograph 5.5**  
An example of phototropism

## Chemotropism

**Chemotropism** is the plant response to **chemical** (Photograph 5.6).

Roots show positive chemotropism when they grow towards mineral salts.

Roots show negative chemotropism when they grow away from chemical substances such as poison.

**Photograph 5.6** An example of chemotropism

## Nastic Responses

Nastic responses include **photonasty**, **seismonasty**, **nyctinasty**, **thermonasty** and **thigmonasty**.

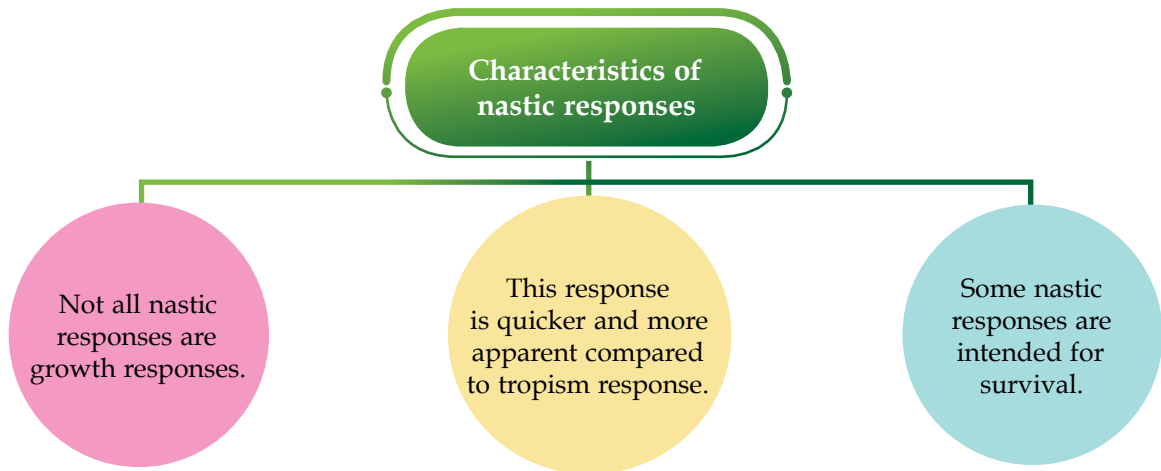


Figure 5.3 Characteristics of nastic responses

## Types of Nastic Responses

### Photonasty

Typically, flower petals engage in photonasty as a response to light. Have you ever seen Japanese roses open early in the morning? (Photograph 5.7).



Photograph 5.7 Japanese roses

### Seismonasty

Seismonasty is a plant response that occurs due to a mechanical stimulus such as **shock**, **touch**, **wind** and **raindrops**. Seismonasty responses can be seen on **leaves**, **stigma** and **stamens**. What occurs in a mimosa plant when it is touched? (Photograph 5.8).



Photograph 5.8  
Mimosa plant

5.1.1

## Nyctinasty

**Nyctinasty** is a circadian rhythm that responds towards the onset of darkness. Normally, the leaves of legume plants such as the river tamarind closes its leaves at night and unfurls them during daytime (Photograph 5.9).



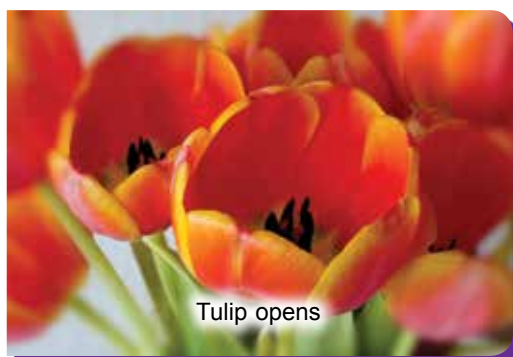
**Photograph 5.9** *Leucaena leucocephala*  
(River tamarind)

## Thermonasty

**Thermonasty** is the plant response towards changes in the surrounding temperatures. For example, tulips open when there is an increase in temperature and close when the temperature drops (Photograph 5.10).



Tulip closes



Tulip opens

**Photograph 5.10** Tulips

## Thigmonasty

**Thigmonasty** is the plant response towards vibration. This response can be seen in carnivorous plants such as the Venus flytrap. The exerted stimulus causes it to clamp its leaves shut and trap the insect inside it (Photograph 5.11).

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Compare tropism and nastic responses in plants using a mind map.



**Photograph 5.11** Venus flytrap

## Formative Practice

5.1

1. State the definition of tropism.
2. List **three** types of tropism.
3. Justify phototropism in plants.

4. Danish discovered that the mimosa leaves fold up when a flame from a lighter was held close to its leaves. Explain this observation.





# 5.2 Phytohormone

What regulate responses in plants? Plants do not have a system like the nervous and endocrine systems in humans and animals to regulate their daily activities. This is the reason why responses in plants can only be seen clearly after a period of time.

## ACTIVITY ZONE

Do a research about history of phytohormone and present the findings of your group.

**Phytohormones** or plant hormones are chemical substances that stimulate and coordinate responses in plants, at low concentrations. Generally, phytohormones are synthesised in a certain plant organ and transported to a target organ through the phloem.

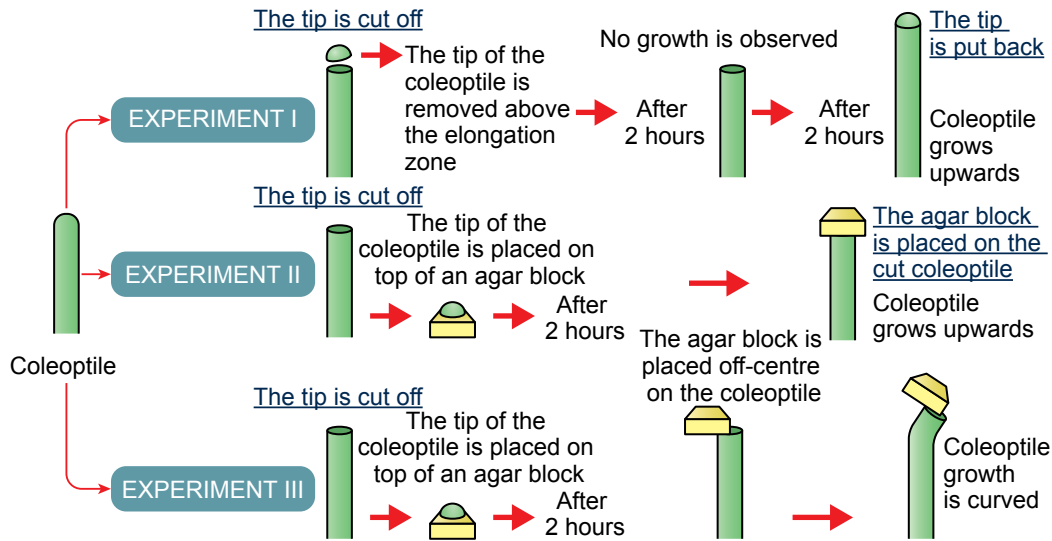
## The Functions of Phytohormones

Table 5.1 Types of phytohormones and their functions

Types of phytohormone	Functions
Auxin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functional in phototropism and geotropism</li> <li>• Stimulates development of the apical dominance in shoots and roots</li> <li>• Stimulates growth and elongation in root and shoot cells</li> <li>• Stimulates development of adventitious roots at the end of stem cuttings</li> <li>• Stimulates cell division in cambium during secondary growth</li> <li>• Inhibits abscission of fruits and young leaves</li> <li>• Inhibits growth of lateral buds</li> </ul>
Gibberellin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stimulates growth and elongation in the stem cell</li> <li>• Stimulates development of leaves, flowers and fruits</li> <li>• Stimulates development and germination of seeds</li> <li>• Causes growth of flowers in dwarf plants</li> <li>• Inhibits development of roots</li> </ul>
Cytokinin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stimulates division and elongation of root and stem cells when auxin is present</li> <li>• Stimulates seed germination</li> <li>• Inhibits development of apical dominance</li> <li>• Delays leaf senescence</li> <li>• Stimulates growth of lateral buds</li> </ul>
Absciscic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inhibits growth of plants</li> <li>• Stimulates abscission of mature fruits, leaves and flowers</li> <li>• Induces seed dormancy</li> <li>• Induces stomatal closing during drought season</li> <li>• Inhibits growth of buds and seed germination</li> </ul>
Ethylene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stimulates ripening in fruits</li> <li>• Stimulates senescence process in plants</li> <li>• Stimulates abscission of leaves and fruits</li> </ul>

## Effects of Auxin on Growth Response

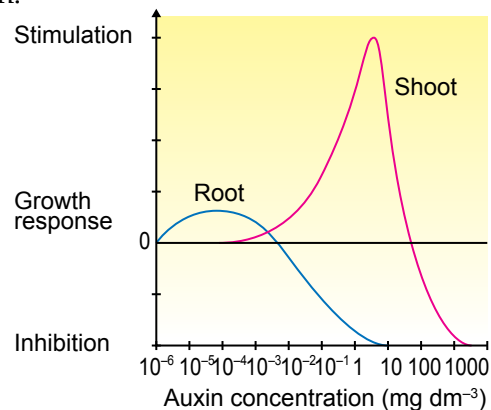
Plants respond to stimulus in the form of growth. This growth response is controlled by the **auxin**. What are the effects of auxin on growth response? Let's study the following experiment about the effects of auxin on the coleoptiles of plants as shown in Figure 5.4.



**Figure 5.4** An experiment to study the effects of auxin on coleoptile growth at the shoot tip

What is the inference that can be made based on the observations from the experiment above? This experiment shows that auxin which has been synthesised at the coleoptile tips stimulate cell elongation. Auxin distribution influences the direction of the shoot growth. Uniform distribution of auxin causes the coleoptile to grow upwards. The area which receives more auxin will grow faster and cause coleoptiles to curve to the side that receives less or none of the auxin.

Tropism is closely related to auxin distribution. External stimuli such as light and gravity influences the auxin distribution in plants. Auxin produces different effects to the cells in the shoots and the cells in the roots. High auxin concentrations stimulates cell elongation in the shoots but also inhibits cell elongation in the roots (Figure 5.5).

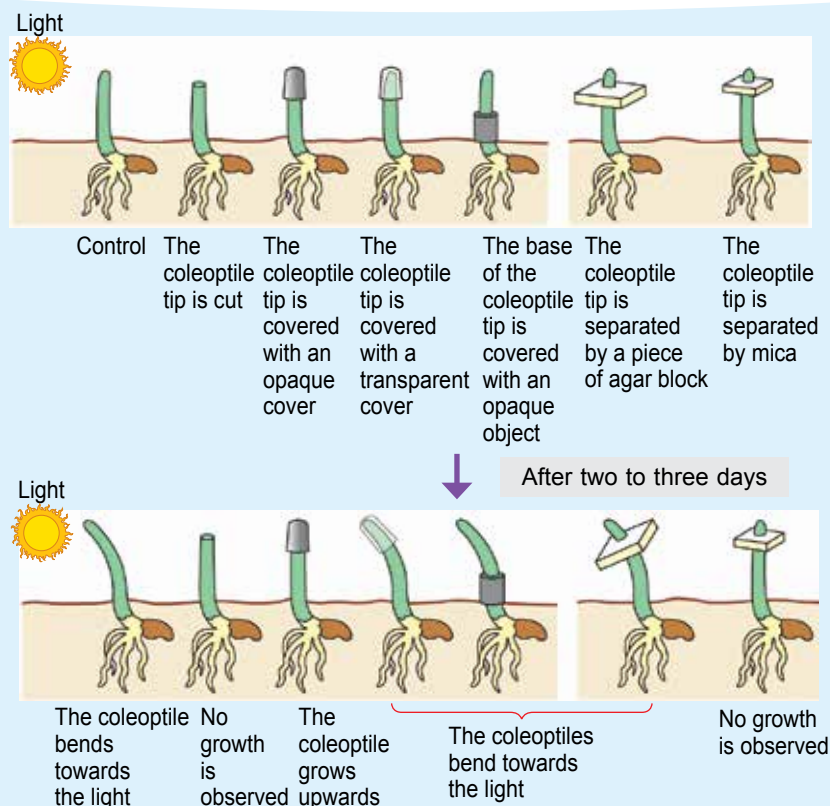


**Figure 5.5** Graph of effect of auxin concentration towards elongation of shoot and root

## The Roles of Auxins in Plant Responses

### The Role of Auxin in Phototropism

The response direction of shoot tip depends on the direction of the light stimulus. The distribution of auxins in the shoots is uniform if the shoots are exposed to the light from all directions. This causes the shoots to grow upwards. When the shoots are exposed to the light from only one direction, the auxin will move away from the light. The auxin concentration is higher on the shaded side. The concentration of auxin becomes uneven on the shoots. The cells in the shaded side elongate more than the cells in the bright side. As a result, the shoots bend towards the light. The shoots show positive phototropism. Figure 5.6 shows the role of auxin in the coleoptile tips on plant response based on phototropism.



**Figure 5.6** The role of auxin in the coleoptile tips on plant response based on phototropism

### The Role of Auxin in Geotropism

Auxin also controls plant response to gravity. Seeds germinate horizontally in the soil. Due to the pull of gravity, auxin pools at the bottom side of the tips and roots. Roots grow downwards following the pull of gravity and exhibiting **positive geotropism**. Meanwhile shoots grow upwards against the pull of gravity, exhibiting **negative geotropism**. Figure 5.7 shows the role of auxin on geotropism at the tips of shoots and roots.

Uneven auxin distribution in tendrils allow tendrils to coil or wrap around an object. This response is known as thigmotropism.

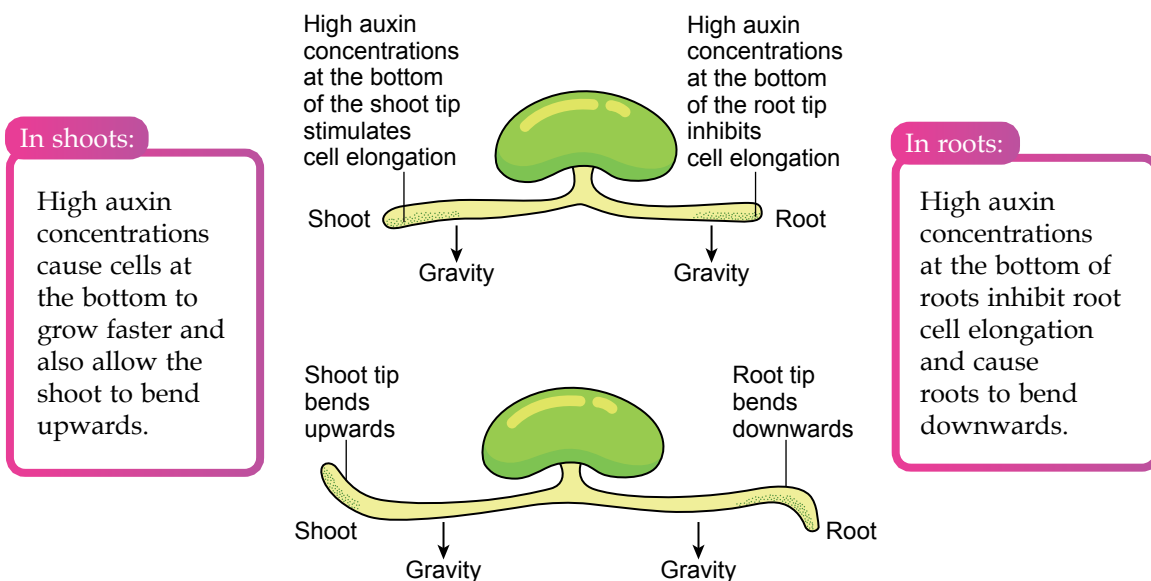


Figure 5.7 The role of auxin in shoot tips and root tips on plant growth response based on geotropism

5.1

Responses of Radicles and Seedlings towards Gravity

**Aim**

To design an experiment to study the responses of radicles and seedlings towards gravity

**Procedure**

1. Work in groups.
2. Design an experiment to study the responses of radicle and plumule of a seedling towards gravitational pull.
3. Write a complete report that includes:
 

(a) Problem statement	(d) Variables	(g) Observation
(b) Aim	(e) Material and apparatus	(h) Discussion
(c) Hypothesis	(f) Procedure	(i) Conclusion

EXPERIMENT

Formative Practice

5.2

1. Name **three** examples of phytohormones and state their functions.
2. How does auxin control shoot phototropism in the dark?
3. Mr. Farid who sells apples at a supermarket usually separates apples that are too ripe from those that are ripe. Justify his action. 

# 5.3 Application of Phytohormones in Agriculture

Phytohormones are important chemicals that are directly involved in the development of flowers, fruits, stems and roots. Phytohormones can exist naturally or be synthesised in the laboratory. There are phytohormones that can be extracted for multiple purposes in agriculture. Figure 5.8 shows the application of phytohormones in the field of agriculture.

## Auxin

- Encourages growth in crops
- Promotes root growth (asexual reproduction) on woody plant stems for horticultural crops
- Produces fruit without seeds via parthenocarpy
- Used as weed killer
- Induces dormancy in potatoes during storage or distribution
- Promotes growth of low-lying and lush plants

## Gibberellin

- Treats mutated dwarf plants to grow to normal heights
- Promotes rapid elongation of flower stems
- Used to produce larger grapes
- Promotes germination of seeds such as salad, oats and tobacco during low temperatures and low light intensity

## Cytokinin

- Tissue culture technique - promote division and differentiation of cells
- Tissue culture technique - used together with auxin to form plant organs such as roots and stems
- Used to delay leaf senescence in newly cut flowers

## Abscissic acid

- Inhibits germination and growth

## Ethylene

- Used commercially to promote maturation of fruit quickly and evenly
- Promotes simultaneous flowering in plants in the field

### Bio Exploration

Bananas on trees are wrapped with waterproof straw sacks to speed up the ripening process using the ethylene gas that is trapped in the sacks.

Figure 5.8 Application of phytohormones in the field of agriculture

**Problem statement**

What are the effects of ethylene towards tomatoes?

**Aim**

To compare the effects of fruit ripening based on the presence or absence of ethylene

**Hypothesis**

Tomatoes ripen faster in the presence of ethylene.

**Variable**

**Manipulated variable:** Presence of ethylene

**Responding variable:** Ripening of tomatoes

**Constant variables:** Type of fruits, temperature

**Materials:** Paper bags, ripe banana, unripe tomatoes

**Procedure**

1. Prepare two paper bags and label them A and B.
2. Note the colour and condition of the tomatoes before placing them in the paper bags.
3. Fill the paper bags with the following:
  - (a) Paper bag A: One unripe tomato
  - (b) Paper bag B: One unripe tomato and one ripe banana
4. Seal the bags.
5. After 12 hours, observe and compare the changes in colours and conditions of the tomatoes in both bags.
6. Record your observations in the table below.

**Results**

Paper bag	Colour of tomatoes		Condition of tomatoes (hard/ soft)	
	At the beginning of the experiment	At the end of the experiment	At the beginning of the experiment	At the end of the experiment
A				
B				

**Discussion**

1. Which tomato ripens faster? Explain.
2. What is the purpose of the ripe banana in the experiment?
3. Explain the effects of ethylene gas on the tomatoes.

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**PRE CAUTIONS**

Avoid using plastic bags as trapped moisture could lead to faster fruit spoilage.

# Formative Practice 5.3

1. State **one** application for each of these phytohormones in the field of agriculture.
- Gibberellin
  - Cytokinin
  - Auxin

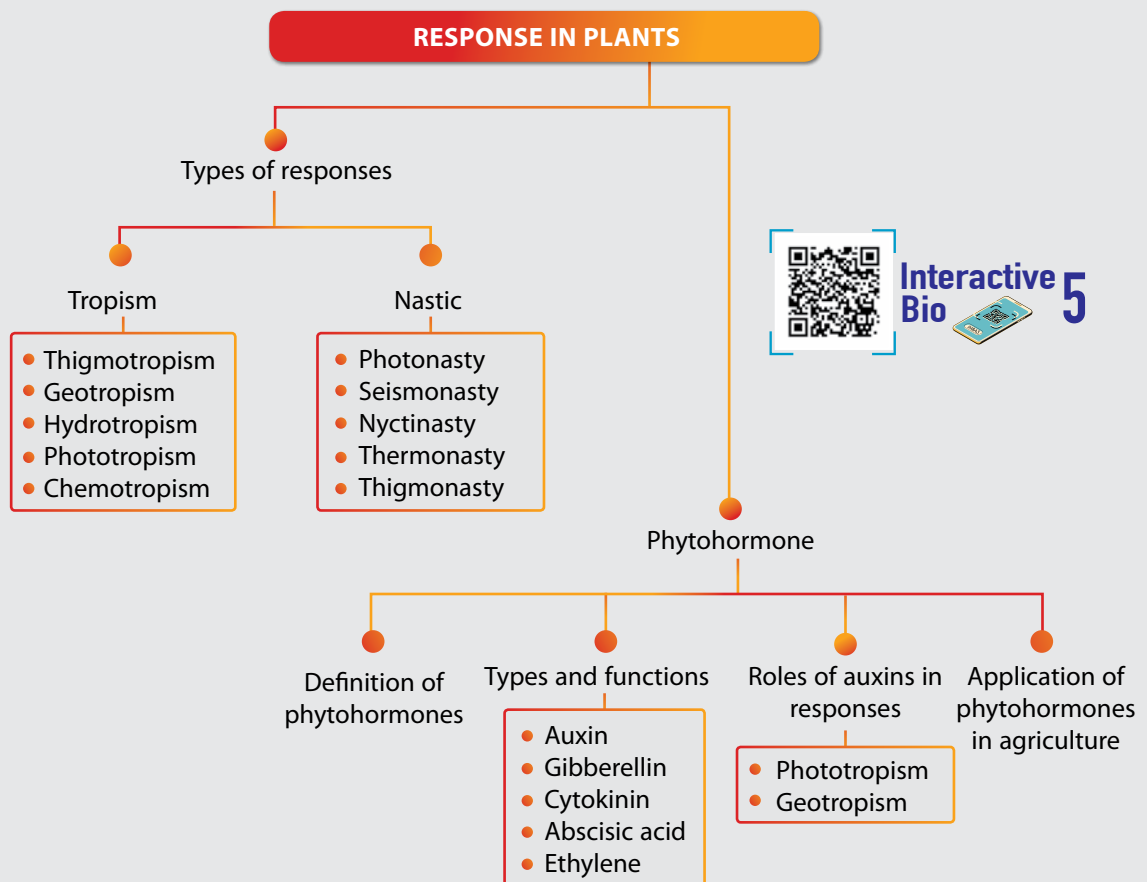


2. Based on the statement below, what is hormone X? Explain the role of hormone X when the surrounding temperature increases.

With hormone X, plants can retain their water content.



## Memory Flashback



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.



Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Types of plant responses, tropism and nastic		
Phytohormones and functions		
Effects of auxin on growth response		
Roles of auxin in phototropism and geotropism		
Application of phytohormones in agriculture		
Effect of fruit ripening in the presence of phytohormone (ethylene)		

## Summative Practice

5



- Figure 1 shows an experiment to study the response of the shoot tip and root tip of a seedling towards sunlight.

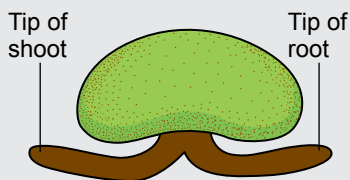





Figure 1

- Identify the response shown by the shoot tip and root tip towards light.
- On Figure 1, draw what is observed on the tips of shoot and root after several days of exposure towards light. 
- Explain how the shoot tip can show the response drawn in 1(b). 
- Using a plant tissue culture technique, a seed can produce many new shoots. These shoots are separated from the parent plant and moved to the new medium containing a full culture solution and particular phytohormone. In your opinion, how does the phytohormone stimulates the growth of the shoots into seedlings? 



2. Figure 2 shows a technique to produce seedless fruits without pollination. This technique requires the use of phytohormone X.

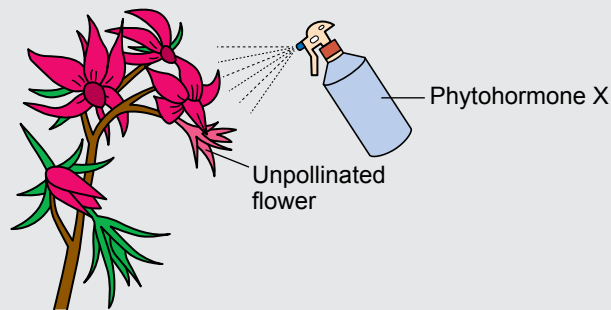


Figure 2

- (a) Name this technique.
- (b) Name **two** types of fruits that can be produced using the technique named in 2(a).
- (c) Based on Figure 2, explain the technique you have mentioned in 2(a).
- (d) Is fruit produced by using this technique beneficial for consumers? Explain your answer.
3. Ethylene is a phytohormone that exists in the form of gas, is odourless and invisible. Phytohormones control the ripening of plants.
- (a) Mrs. Faridah placed an unripe key lime fruit together with a ripe banana in a closed container at room temperature.
- (i) Justify Mrs. Faridah's decision to put both fruits in the same closed container.
- (ii) Predict what would happen to the key lime. Explain your answer.
- (iii) What will happen to the key lime fruit if the container is placed in the fridge? Explain your answer.
- (b) Suggest a method that can be used on fruits bound for export to delay ripening during transport.



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

4. Photograph 1 shows insect pollination in your fruit orchard. You find your yield to be contaminated by high concentrations of insecticide. As a farmer, explain how you can overcome this issue and the steps you can take to increase the quality of fruits in your orchard.



Photograph 1

## Chapter

# 6

# Sexual Reproduction in Flowering Plants

## Chapter

### Exploration

- Structure of a Flower
- Development of Pollen Grains and Embryo Sac
- Pollination and Fertilisation
- Development of Seeds and Fruits
- Importance of Seeds for Survival



Learning  
Standards



## Do You

### Know?

- What is the structure of a flower?
- How does the development of pollen grains and embryo sac occur?
- What is the importance of double fertilisation for the survival of flowering plants?
- Why are seeds important for plant survival?

## *Puya raimondii*

*Puya raimondii* known as Queen of the Andes, is a species from the Bromeliad family which has been found growing in the highlands of Peru and Bolivia at an altitude of 3960 metres (Photograph 6.1). Its flower cluster emerges after the plant is aged between 80 to 150 years old.

The plant resembles a pineapple covered with sharp thorns. Every flower is white, with an estimated width of 5 cm. Besides, this plant has a bright orange anther to attract the pollinating agent, that is, the sunbird. Uniquely, this plant will die after producing flowers and seeds for reproduction.



**Photograph 6.1**  
*Puya raimondii* plant



### Keywords



- ◆ Petal
- ◆ Carpel
- ◆ Tetrad
- ◆ Microspore
- ◆ Megaspore
- ◆ Embryo sac
- ◆ Integument
- ◆ Funicle
- ◆ Nucellus
- ◆ Endosperm
- ◆ Dormant

# 6.1 Structure of a Flower

In general, flowers are the most distinctive organs in the angiosperms. The beauty and scent of flowers which have evolved, not only attract animals and insects, but also play a role in ensuring the survival of species. The flowers contain the plant reproductive structures.

Flowers contain both **male** and **female reproductive organs**. Besides, flowers also have structures called **peduncles, sepals** and **petals** (Figure 6.1).

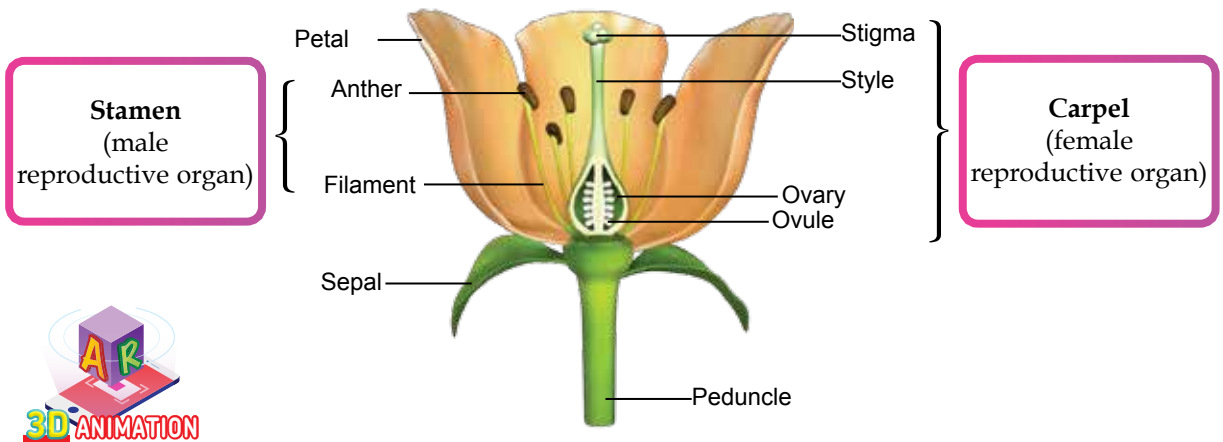
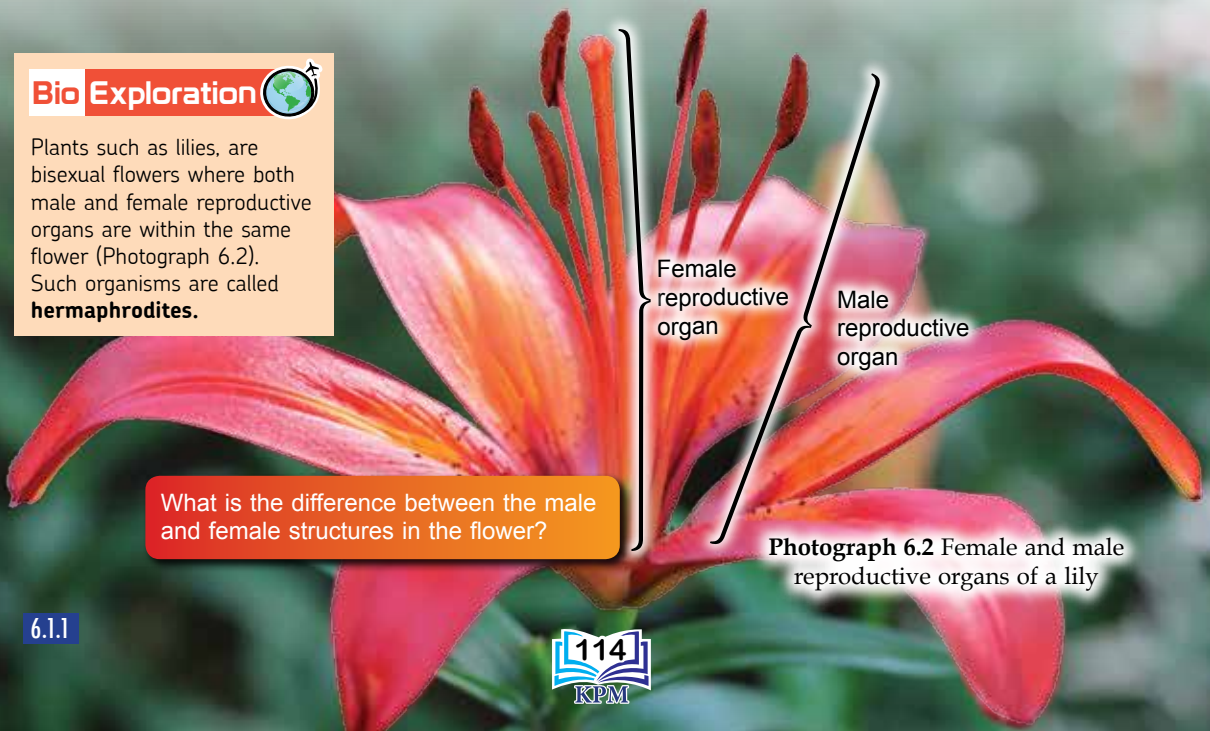


Figure 6.1 Longitudinal section of a flower

## Comparison between Male and Female Structures in a Flower

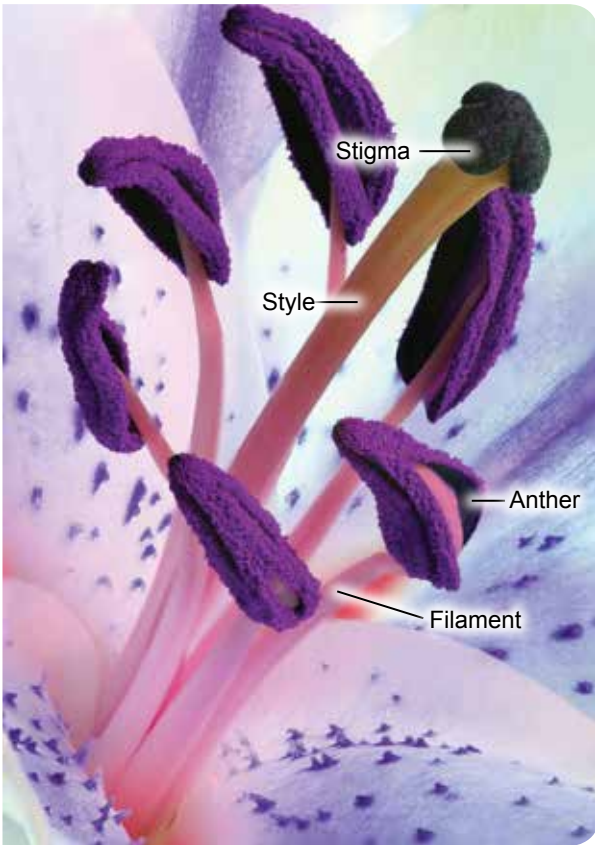
### Bio Exploration

Plants such as lilies, are bisexual flowers where both male and female reproductive organs are within the same flower (Photograph 6.2). Such organisms are called **hermaphrodites**.



What is the difference between the male and female structures in the flower?

Photograph 6.2 Female and male reproductive organs of a lily



**Photograph 6.3** Male and female flower parts

**Table 6.2** Comparison between the male and female flower parts

Similarities	
Both produce gametes	
Both are located at the flower's organ	
Differences	
Male flower part	Female flower part
Consists of stamen	Consists of carpel
Has filament and anther	Has stigma, style and ovary
Produces pollen grains	Produces embryo sac
Projecting out from the base of the ovary	Located in the middle part of the flower

### Bio Exploration

The number of stamens in a flower varies according to species. The rosary pea has a single stamen. The saguaro cactus in the Sonoran Desert, Arizona has the highest number of stamens, that is, 3482 stamens in a single flower.

## Activity 6.1

### Aim

To dissect a flower, draw and label the structures and state their functions

**Material:** *Hibiscus* sp.

**Apparatus:** Scalpel, magnifying glass

### Procedure

1. Prepare a fresh and large hibiscus.
2. Identify sepal, petal, stamen, carpel and peduncle.
3. Carefully cut the flower longitudinally from the peduncle to the stigma using a scalpel.
4. Identify and observe the internal structures such as the stigma, style and ovary using the magnifying glass.
5. Draw the longitudinal section of the flower and label the structures, which are the sepal, petal, anther, filament, stigma, style and ovary.

### Discussion

1. Name the
  - (a) male reproductive organ
  - (b) female reproductive organ
2. State **one** feature of the petal. How is this feature related to its function?
3. Explain the position of stamens in a hibiscus flower. What is the importance of the position?



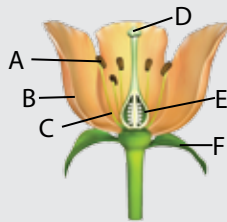
### PRE CAUTIONS

Be careful when using a scalpel.

# Formative Practice

6.1

1. The diagram below shows the structure of a flower.



- (a) Label parts A - F.  
(b) State the function of parts A - F.

2. Why are stamens and carpels known as the reproductive organs of flowering plants?

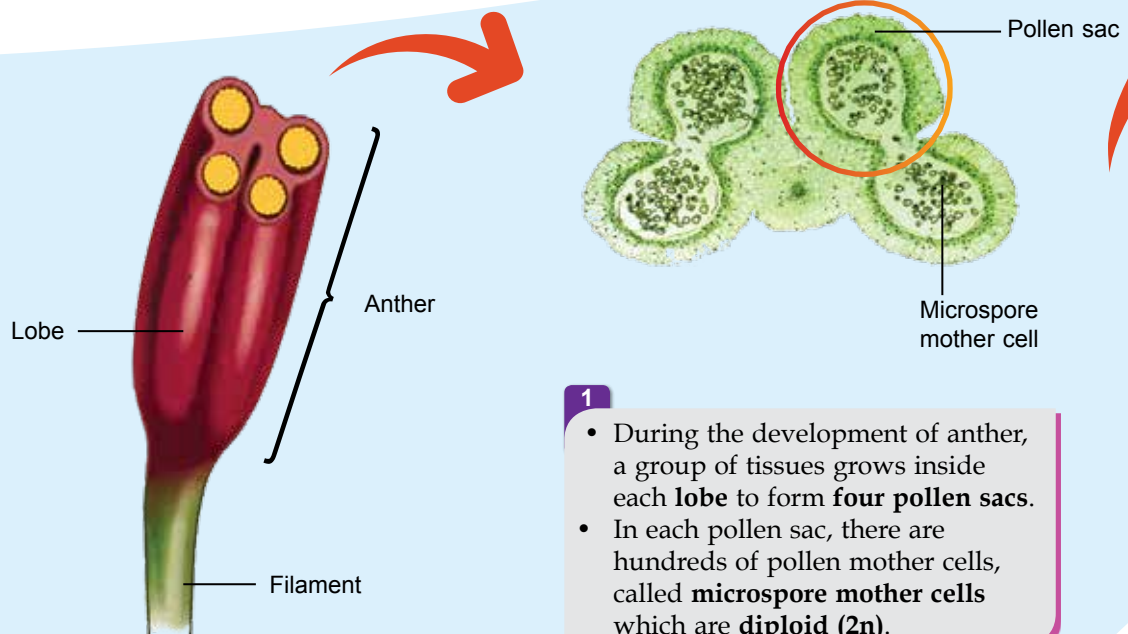


3. Compare male and female reproductive organs of flowers in terms of their:
- Names
  - Structures that form them
  - Functions

## 6.2 Development of Pollen Grains and Embryo Sac

### The Formation of Pollen Grains in an Anther

The part of a flower that produces pollen grains is the **anther**. How are pollen grains produced? Figure 6.3 shows the development of pollen grains.



1

- During the development of anther, a group of tissues grows inside each **lobe** to form **four pollen sacs**.
- In each pollen sac, there are hundreds of pollen mother cells, called **microspore mother cells** which are **diploid (2n)**.

### Bio Exploration

The rough surface of the pollen helps it to stick easily to the stigma and pollinating agents.

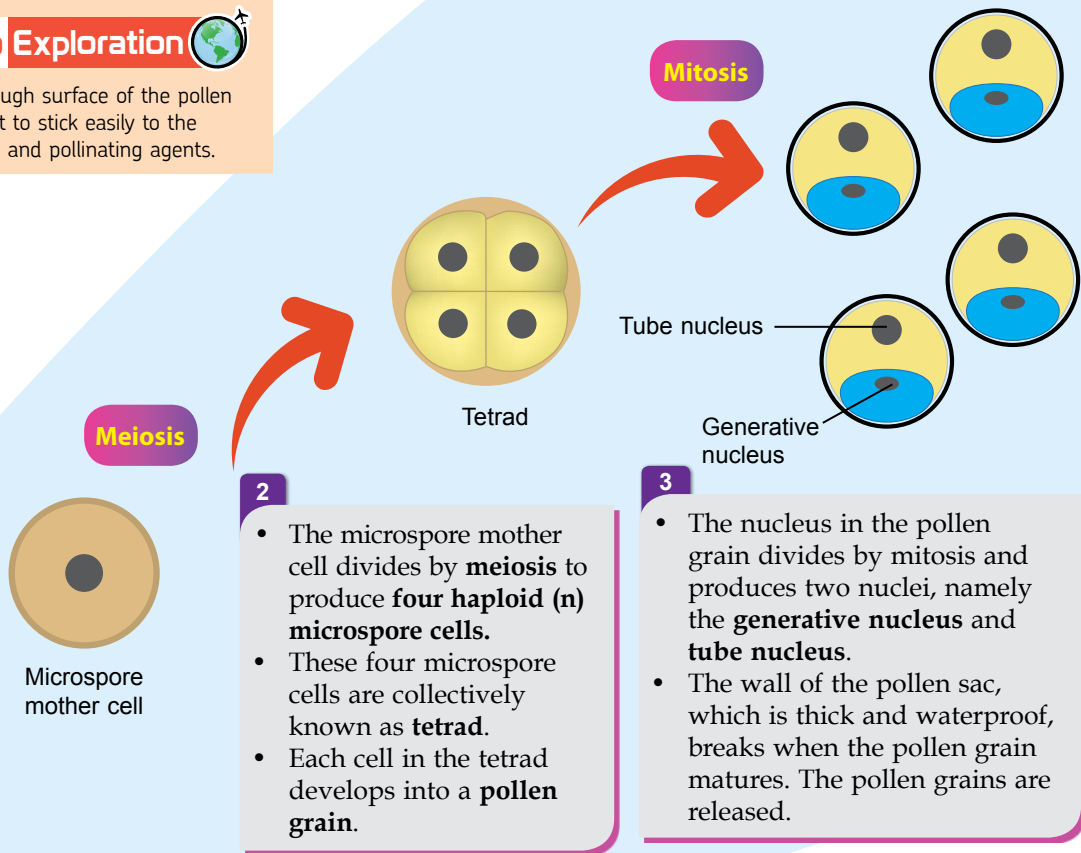


Figure 6.3 Development of the pollen grain

### Bio Exploration

Plants of the gymnosperm phylum, such as the pines and fir do not have flowers. However, these plants produce pollens through structures called cones. There are two types of cones, namely the pollen cone, which is the male reproductive part and the seed cone, which is the female reproductive part. The seed cone is larger than the pollen cone. The pollen cone has scale-like structures that produce pollen grains. Normally, both pollen cones and seed cones are produced on the same tree (Photograph 6.4).



Photograph 6.4 Pollen cones and seed cones of a pine tree

## Activity 6.2



### Aim

To prepare and observe the slide as well as describe the shape of pollen grains of various plants through a light microscope

### Materials

Anthers of various types of flowers, 3% sucrose solution

### Apparatus

Forceps, light microscope, cavity glass slide, cover slip, dropper

### Procedure

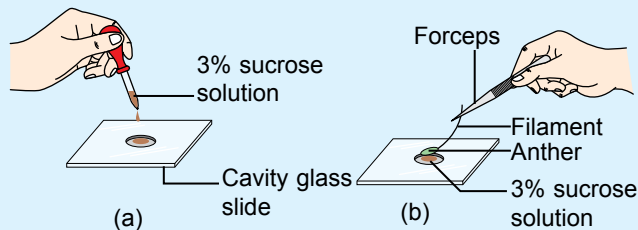


Figure 6.4 Set-up of a pollen grain slide



### PRE CAUTIONS

Nail polish can be applied to the sides of the cover slip to prevent the slide from moving.

1. Add a few drops of 3% sucrose solution to the cavity glass slide (Figure 6.4 (a)).
2. Obtain some pollen grains from a mature anther by using the forceps. Drop the pollen grains onto the 3% sucrose solution (Figure 6.4 (b)).
3. Place the cover slip over the cavity on the slide and leave it aside for 3 minutes.
4. Observe the slide under the light microscope using low power objective lens.
5. Repeat steps 1 to 5 using pollen grains from different plants.
6. Draw a diagram of the observed structure of the pollen grains.

### Discussion

1. Why does this activity use
  - (a) cavity glass slides?
  - (b) 3% sucrose solution?
2. Based on your sketch, state the name of the plant, the features of the pollens and the importance of these features.

## Bio Exploration

Wind, animals and insects are pollinating agents that help in transferring pollen. Small, smooth and light pollens are transferred by wind. Examples of wind-pollinated flowers are corn, grass and paddy. Pollens that are carried by animals and insects are rough and sticky. Examples of animal-pollinated flowers and insect-pollinated flowers are rambutan, durian, papaya, rose, sunflower and hibiscus (Photograph 6.5).



(a)



(b)

Photograph 6.5

(a) Example of insect-pollinated flower and (b) example of wind-pollinated flower



## The Formation of Embryo Sac in an Ovule

**Ovules** are structures of a flower formed inside the carpel. Ovules develop from a layer of tissues inside the ovary. A single ovary may contain one or more ovules (Figure 6.5). The ovule attaches to the ovary wall through a stalk called the **funicle**. The area of attachment of the funicle to the ovary is called the **placenta**. The placenta supplies nutrients to the ovule through the funicle. A mass of tissues inside the ovary develops forming a lump called **nucellus**. The nucellus consists of parenchyma tissue.

The nucellus tissue develops into two layers called the **integument**. At the end of the integument, there is a little opening, called the **micropyle** which allows the entry of air and water into the seed during germination. One of the nucellus cells is the **megaspore mother cell** or also known as the **embryo sac mother cell** which will develop to form an embryo sac (Figure 6.6).

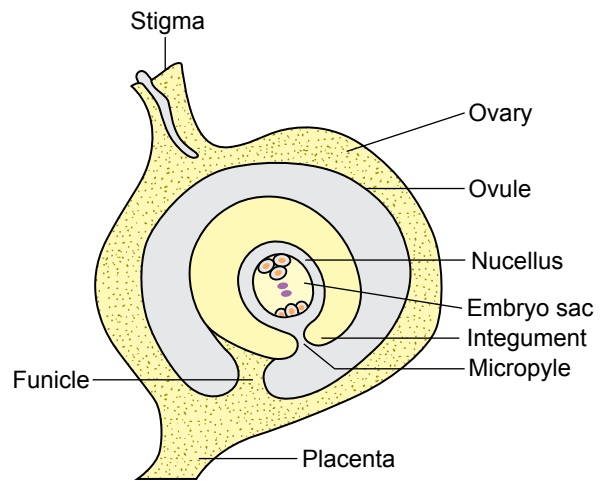


Figure 6.5 Structure of a mature ovule

4

- Three nuclei move to one end of the embryo sac to form **three antipodal cells**.
- Another three nuclei move to the opposite end of the embryo sac and form **two synergid cells and one egg cell**.
- Two nuclei in the centre of the embryo sac form the **polar nuclei**.

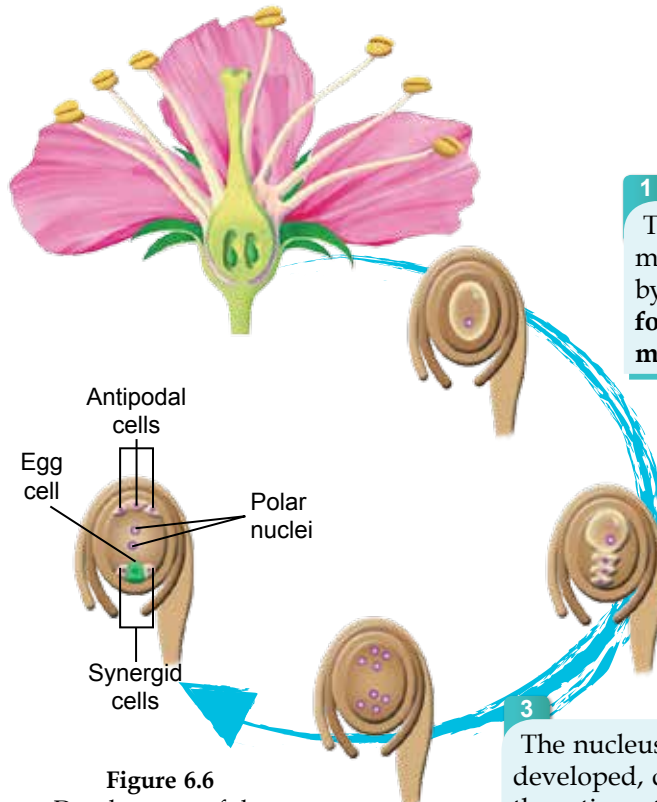


Figure 6.6  
Development of the embryo sac

1

The megaspore mother cell ( $2n$ ) divides by meiosis to produce **four haploid ( $n$ ) megaspore cells**.

2

**Three of the megaspore cells degenerate and only one megaspore cell develops.**

3

The nucleus of the cell that has developed, divides mitotically three times to produce a cell with **eight nuclei**.

6.2.2

**Aim**

To construct a mind map that shows the stages in the formation of pollen grains and embryo sac

**Materials**

Mahjong paper, marker pens of various colours

**Procedure**

1. Work in groups.
2. Construct a mind map on the mahjong paper to show the formation of:
  - (a) Pollen grains from microspore mother cell
  - (b) Embryo sac from megaspore mother cell
3. Display your work on the laboratory table.
4. Conduct the presentation using Three Stray One Stay method.

## Formative Practice

6.2

1. Name the cell that differentiates to form:
  - (a) Pollen grains in the anther
  - (b) Embryo sac in the ovary
2. In the formation of pollen grains, the nucleus in the pollen will divide by mitosis to form two nuclei. Justify.
3. What is the importance of meiosis in the formation of pollen grains and cells of the embryo sac?
4. After the formation of embryo sac is completed, this cell contains eight nuclei. Name the nuclei.

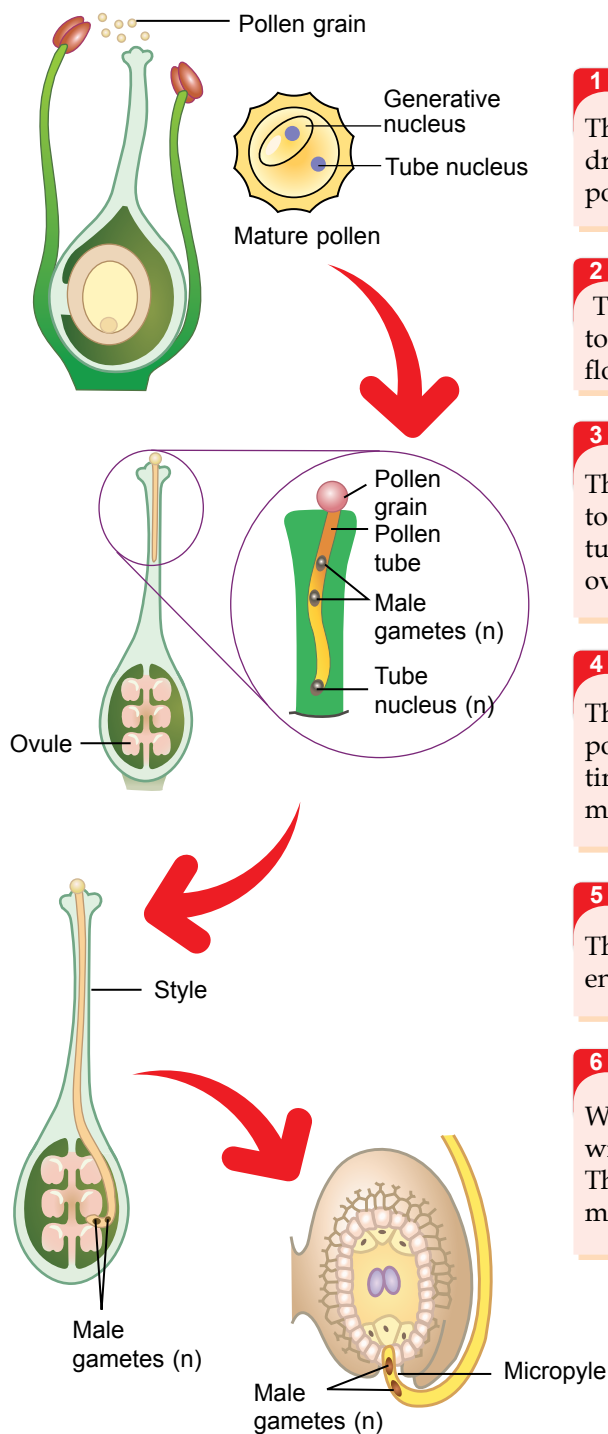
# 6.3 Pollination and Fertilisation

The process in which pollen grains are transferred from the anther to the stigma is known as **pollination**. This process is assisted by pollinating agents such as **insects, mammals, birds, water or wind** (Photograph 6.6). The presence of pollen grains on the stigma triggers the **process of fertilisation**.



Photograph 6.6 Pollination assisted by bees

Figure 6.7 shows the formation of pollen tube and male gametes.



**Figure 6.7** Formation of pollen tube and male gametes

## Activity 6.4



### Aim

To carry out an activity to observe the germination of pollen grains and formation of pollen tubes in a sugar solution under a light microscope

**Materials:** 10% sucrose solution, distilled water, acetocarmine stain solution, fresh flowers such as balsam, hibiscus or allamanda, filter paper

**Apparatus:** Cavity glass slides, cover slip, forceps, mounting needle, dropper, light microscope

### Procedure

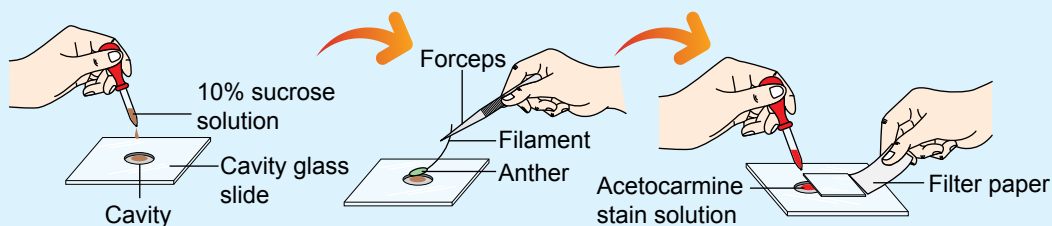


Figure 6.8 Set-up of apparatus to observe the germination of pollen grains

1. Prepare a clean cavity glass slide. Using a dropper, place two drops of 10% sucrose solution onto the surface of the slide.
2. Take a fresh flower with anther that has many pollen grains.  
(Note: Pollen grains are the powdery substances on the anther)
3. Dip the anther into the drops of 10% sucrose solution that has been placed in the cavity of the slide.
4. Cover the specimen with the cover slip gently using the mounting needle to prevent the formation of air bubbles.
5. Observe the slide under the light microscope using low power objective lens to obtain the preliminary observation on the shape of the pollen grain.
6. Sketch your observation.
7. Leave the slide in a dark place at room temperature for 20 minutes.
8. Once again observe the slide under the light microscope using low power objective lens to observe the pollen grain that has germinated and formed a pollen tube.
9. Place a drop of acetocarmine stain solution on one end of the cover slip on the slide. By placing a filter paper at the opposite end, let the stain solution diffuse across the cover slip to stain the specimen underneath.
10. Once again using the slide that has been stained under the light microscope, observe the tube nucleus and generative nucleus in the pollen tube.
11. Draw and label a diagram to show the pollen grain before and after the formation of the pollen tube.

### Discussion

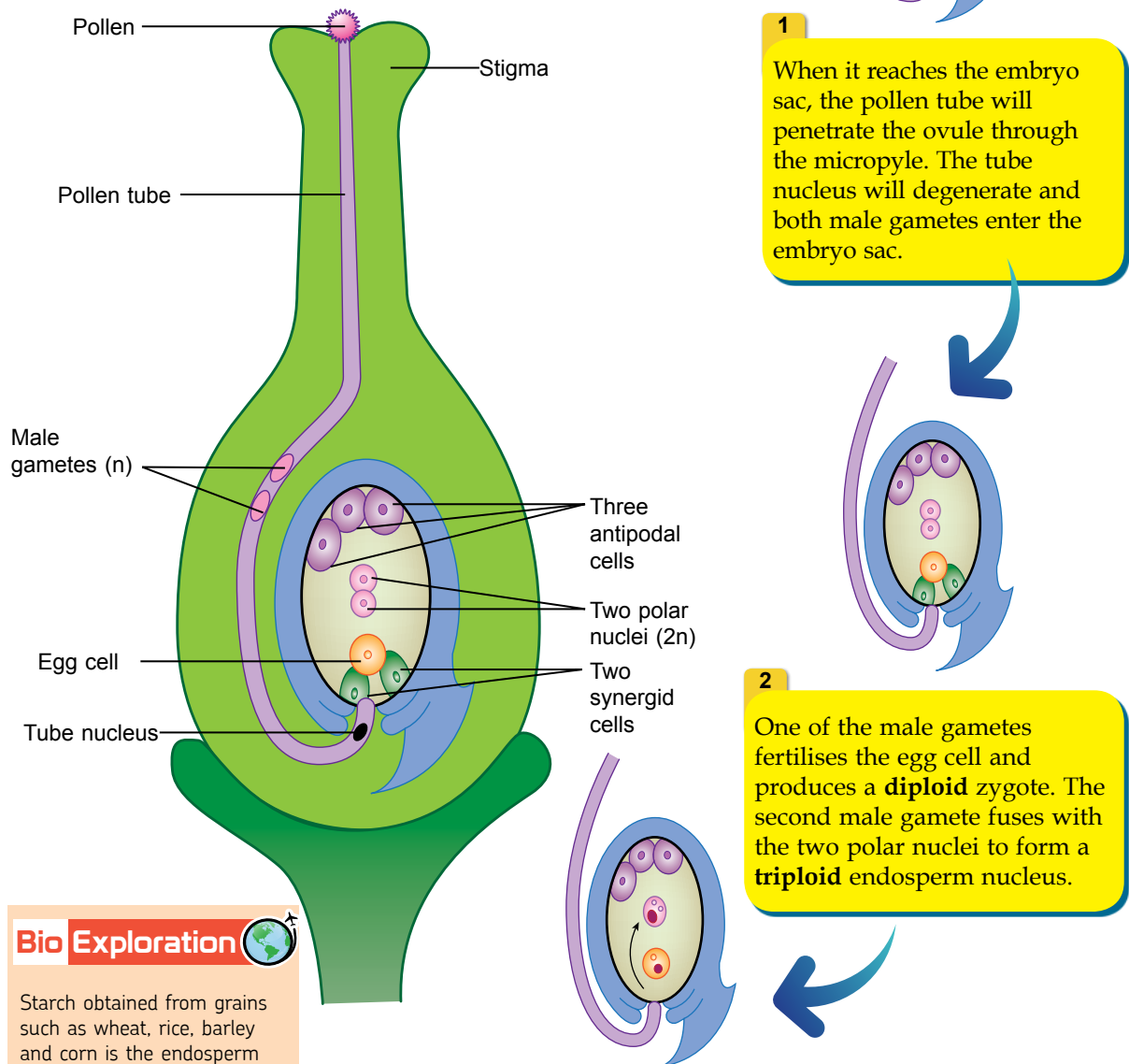
1. What is the need to use fresh flowers in this experiment?
2. Describe the specific shape and characteristics of the pollen grain you observed under the microscope.
3. A group of students did not follow the correct procedure. They did not use the 10% sucrose solution, instead they used distilled water. Predict the result obtained by them.
4. Another group of students forgot to stain the specimen by using the acetocarmine stain solution. State the problems they may have.



## Double Fertilisation in the Formation of Diploid Zygote and Triploid Nucleus

Double fertilisation involves two male gametes, in which the first male gamete fertilises the egg cell to form a diploid zygote whereas the second male gamete fuses with polar nuclei to form a triploid endosperm tissue.

As discussed previously, the generative nucleus undergoes mitosis in the pollen tube to produce two male gametes which are haploids. Thus, both male gametes will enter the embryo sac for fertilisation (Figure 6.9).



### Bio Exploration

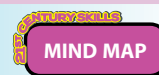
Starch obtained from grains such as wheat, rice, barley and corn is the endosperm tissue formed from double fertilisation.

Figure 6.9 Double fertilisation in flowering plants

## Importance of Double Fertilisation for the Survival of Flowering Plants

1. The fusion of one of the male gametes with the egg cell produces a **zygote**.
  - (a) Genetic information is passed down from one generation to the next.
  - (b) Restores **haploid** condition in gametes with the formation of the diploid zygote.
2. The fusion of another male gamete with **two polar nuclei** produces **endosperm tissue**.
  - (a) This tissue is used for the development of an embryo for the survival of plant species.
  - (b) In eudicots such as legumes, mangoes and mustard, the endosperm is fully utilised by the embryo to develop before the seed matures.
  - (c) In most monocots such as coconut, wheat, barley and corn, only a part of the endosperm is utilised for the development of an embryo. Some of them are stored in the cotyledon to be utilised during the germination of the seed. The **endosperm tissue** enables the embryo to survive in the seed for a long time if conditions are not favourable for germination to occur.

### Activity 6.5



#### Aim

Explain double fertilisation by using a mind map.

#### Material

Manila card, mahjong paper, coloured pencils

#### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Construct a mind map on a mahjong paper. The mind map should include:
  - (a) The formation of two male gametes from the generative nucleus
  - (b) The formation of triploid endosperm nucleus
  - (c) The formation of zygote
3. Present your mind map to the class.

## Formative Practice

6.3

1. What is meant by pollination?
2. Pollination is very important to ensure that reproduction in flowering plants occurs successfully. Explain.
3. During the formation of pollen grain, the microspore mother cell divides by meiosis and produces tetrad. State the features of the tetrad and the importance of such features.
4. The generative nucleus divides by mitosis in the pollen tube. State the importance of this process.
5. The megaspore cell contains eight nuclei. How does this occur?
6. State the role of double fertilisation in ensuring the survival of flowering plants.

## 6.4

# Development of Seeds and Fruits

## Double Fertilisation and Development of Seeds and Fruits

After double fertilisation occurs, the triploid endosperm nucleus divides by mitosis and form the endosperm tissue. The endosperm tissue is the food storing tissue which surrounds and supplies nutrients to the embryo.

The zygote divides by mitosis to form two cells, a larger cell and a smaller cell. The larger cell develops into a **suspensor** that anchors the embryo to the wall of the embryo sac. The smaller cell will become an embryo that consists of **plumule**, **radicle** and **cotyledon** (Figure 6.10).

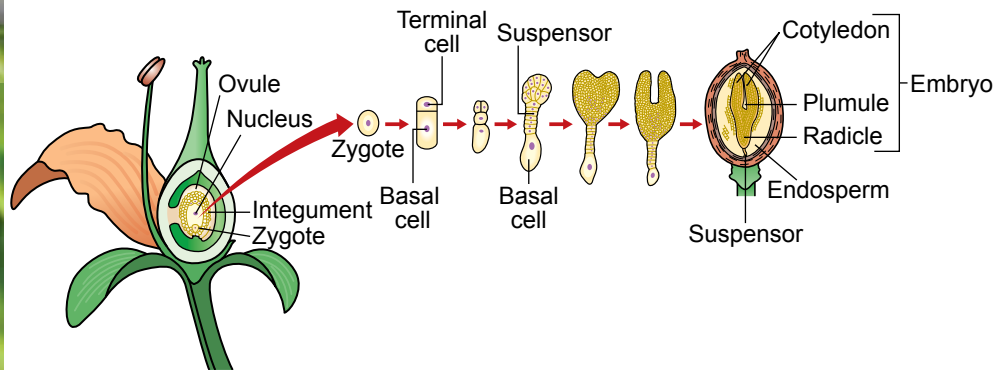


Figure 6.10 Development of an embryo

The **ovule** develops to become the **seed** in the fruit. The integument becomes two layers of seed coat that serves to protect the embryo. During the development of ovule and seed, the **ovary** develops into a **fruit**. Other flower parts such as the stigma and style degenerate and leave a scar on the ovary wall (Figure 6.11 and Photograph 6.6). The ovary wall becomes the pericarp of the fruit which consists of the **exocarp**, **mesocarp** and **endocarp**.

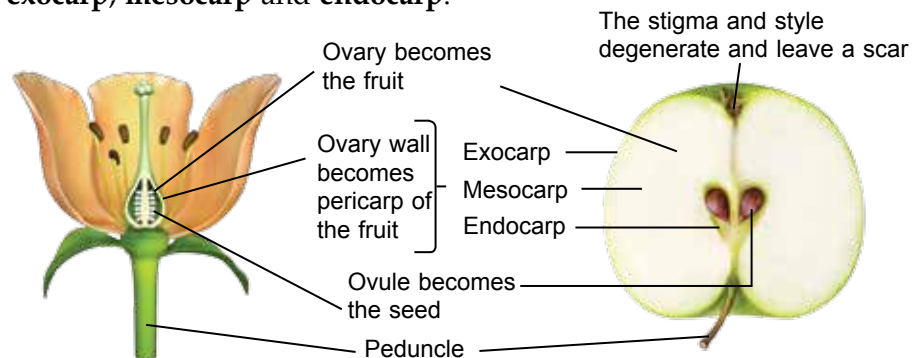


Figure 6.11 Development of the ovary into a fruit after fertilisation

After fertilisation, the petals fall off, the stigma and style wither away and the carpel begins to swell.

Stigma and style degenerate while the sepals of the tomato plant can still be seen.

Ovary wall swells in the ripe fruit.

**Photograph 6.6**  
Development of tomato seeds and fruits after fertilisation.

## Activity 6.6



### Aim

To observe the structure of a fruit and relate it to the structure of the flower

### Material

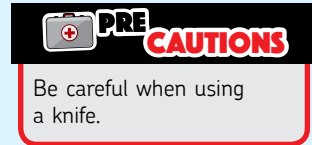
Papaya, female flower of papaya

### Apparatus

Sharp knife, magnifying glass, dissecting tray

### Procedure

1. Make a longitudinal cut in the papaya flower by using a sharp knife.
2. Place the cut papaya flower on the surgical tray.
3. Identify the parts of the papaya flower such as ovary, ovary wall, ovule and peduncle by using a magnifying glass.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 for the papaya fruit.
5. Identify the fruit parts which correspond to the parts inside the flower.
6. Draw the longitudinal section of the flower and fruit and label the parts such as the ovary, ovary wall, ovule, fruit pericarp, seed, and peduncle.



### Discussion

1. Name the structure that forms the:
  - (a) Fruit
  - (b) Seed
2. Name the parts of the fruit that can be eaten.

## Activity 6.7







### Aim

To collect specimens to study the types of fruits

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Study the information below about the types of fruits.

Types of fruits	Examples
<p><b>Simple fruit</b> The fruit develops from a single carpel or several carpels fused together in a single flower.</p>	 Peas
<p><b>Aggregate fruit</b> The fruit develops from numerous carpels in a single flower.</p>	 Raspberry
<p><b>Multiple fruit</b> The fruit develops from carpels of a cluster of flowers.</p>	 Pineapple
<p><b>Accessories fruit</b> The fruit develops from a tissue that is not in the ovary but from some tissues near the carpel.</p>	 Apple

3. Based on the above information, give an example of each type of fruit.



4. Study the fruits and identify:
  - (a) The number of fruits in each stalk
  - (b) The size of the fruit
  - (c) The number of flowers that forms it
5. Present the findings of your group.

## Formative Practice

### 6.4

1. After fertilisation occurs between the male gamete and the egg cell, the zygote produced undergoes mitosis forming two cells. Explain.
2. State the structure of the seed which enables it to be stored for a long time before it germinates.
3. What is the function of the suspensor in the development of seeds?
4. What is the difference between the plumule and radicle which are structures forming an embryo in a seed?
5. The exocarp is said to protect fruits from spoiling. Justify.

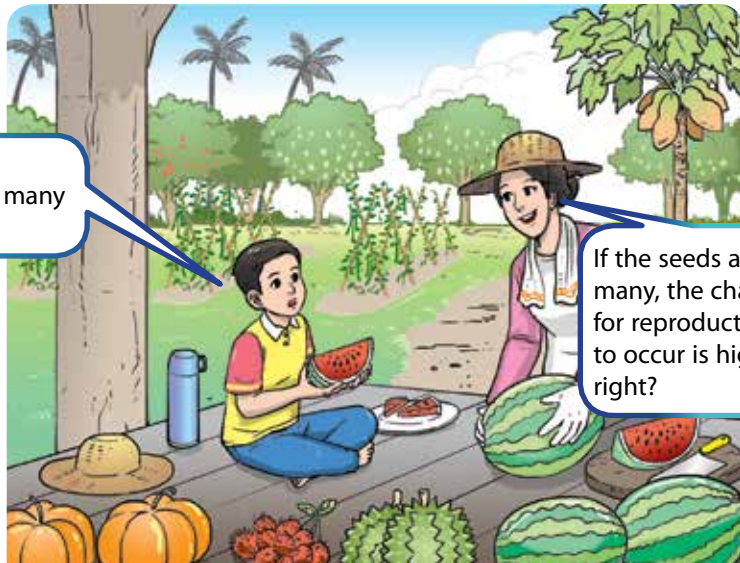
# 6.5 Importance of Seeds for Survival

Sister, why does a watermelon have many seeds?

If the seeds are many, the chances for reproduction to occur is high, right?

### Think Smart

What are human actions that aid in the dispersal of seeds?



Seeds are the structures used to replant most angiosperms to maintain the survival of plant species. Seeds have specific features to increase the chances of reproduction. (Figure 6.12).

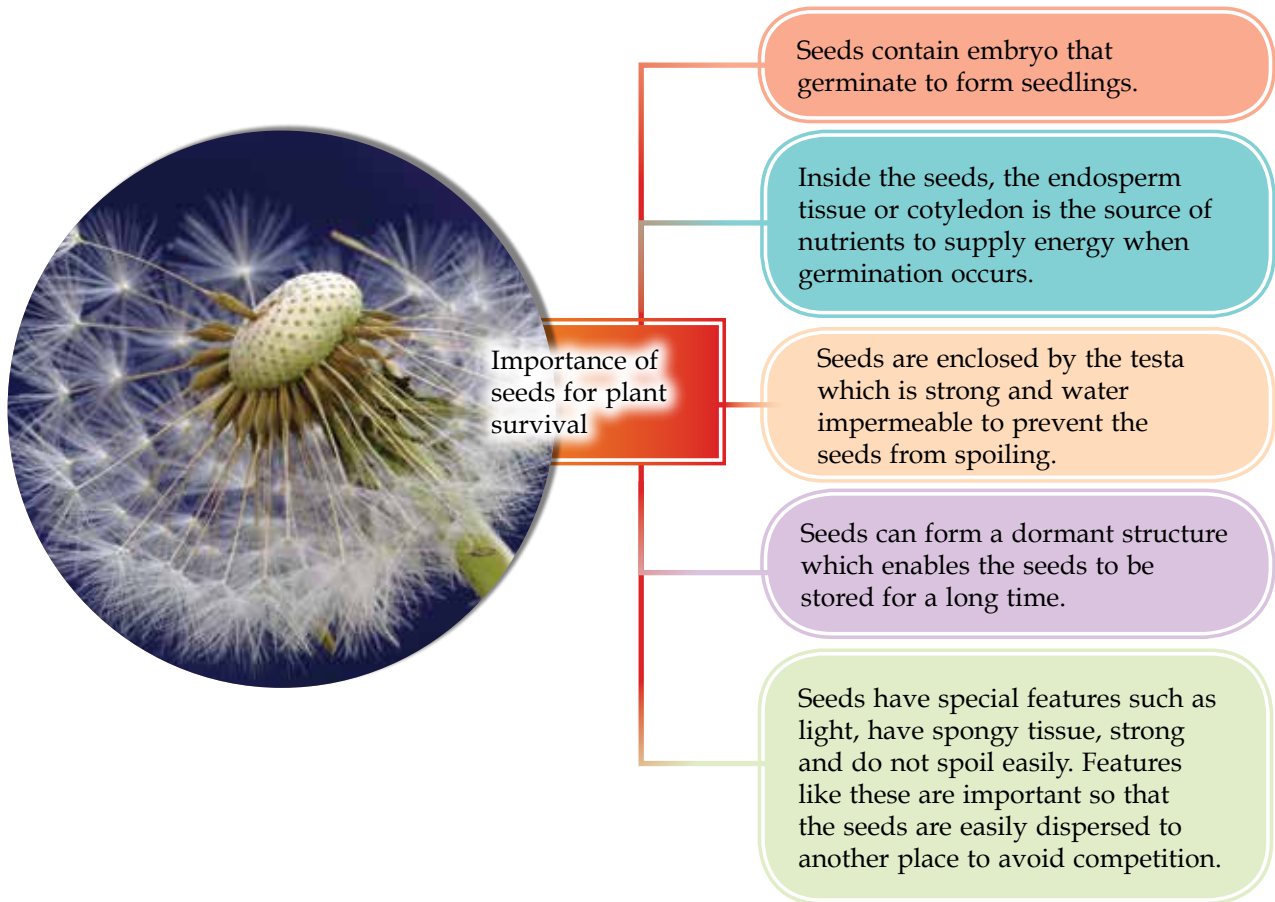


Figure 6.12 Importance of seeds for plant survival

## Formative Practice

6.5

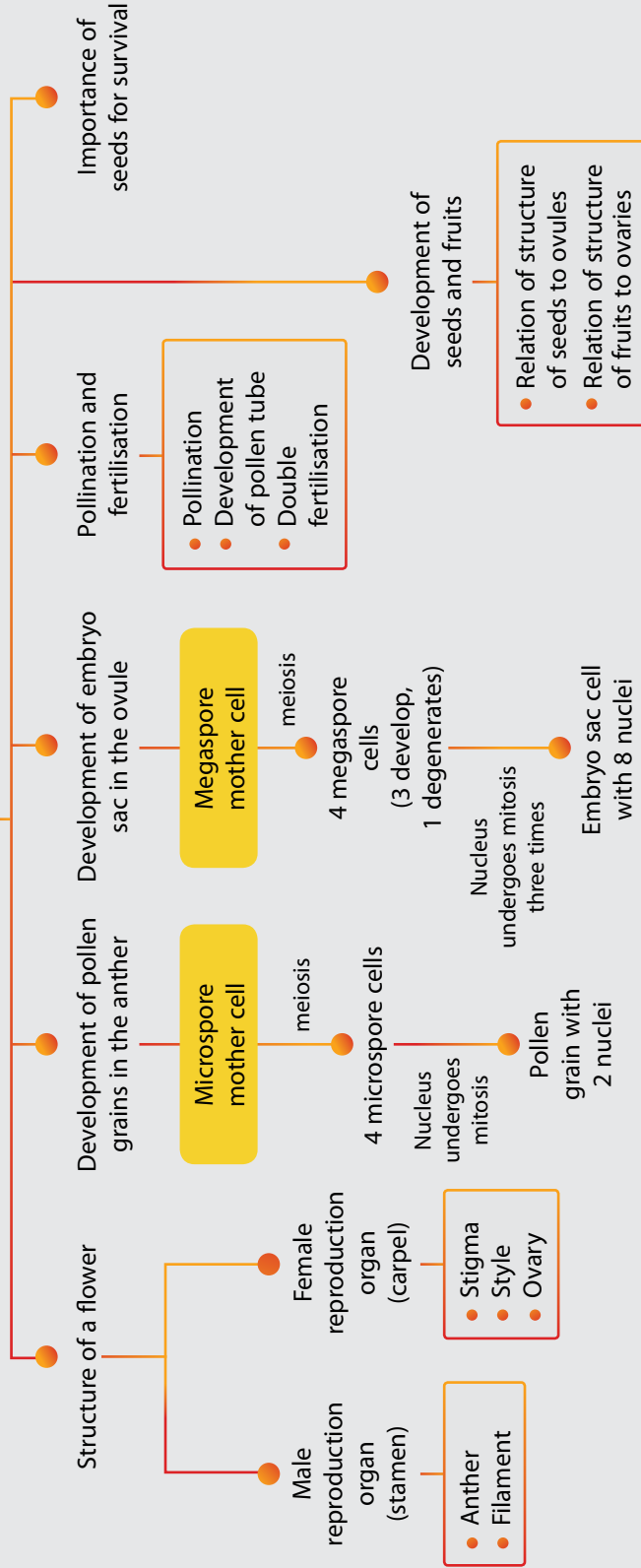
1. Why are seeds important to ensure that plant species are not extinct?
2. Explain the following statements.
  - (a) There are cotyledons inside a seed
  - (b) Some plants have a very large number of seeds



3. Why does asexual reproduction produce crops of lesser quality compared to sexual reproduction through seeds?

# Memory Flashback

## SEXUAL REPRODUCTION IN FLOWERING PLANTS



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.

Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Structure of a flower		
Comparison between male structure and female structure		
Formation of pollen in the anther		
Formation of embryo sac in the ovule		
Pollination		
Formation of pollen tube and male gametes		
Double fertilisation in the formation of diploid zygote and triploid nucleus		
The importance of double fertilisation in the survival of flowering plants		
Double fertilisation with the development of seeds and fruits		
Relation of structure of seeds to ovules		
Relation of the structure of fruits to ovaries		
The importance of the seeds for plant survival		

## Summative Practice

6



1. The stigma secretes a sugary solution called nectar. What is the importance of the solution?
2. The formation of pollen grains involves the division of cells by meiosis and mitosis. State the importance of both processes.
3. In some species, the petals are not included in the reproductive structure of the flower, but they are very important in ensuring that reproduction occurs. Why?
4. Flower X is pollinated by insects. State the position of the anther and stigma of the flower. Explain your answer.







5. *Lalang* produces dull-coloured flowers without nectar. However, it is very easy for this plant to reproduce. Explain. 
6. Mr. Suresh is a farmer who grows long beans. Mr. Suresh often lets the fruits from some of the trees to mature and dries them to make seeds. Suggest **one** way to store the seeds so that they last longer. 
7. A tree has produced two flowers. However, the tree was attacked by a type of fungus that damaged the structure of its stigma. This has disrupted the division of the generative nucleus in the style. In your opinion, can this tree produce fruits and seeds? Explain. 
8. Figure 1 shows the conversation between Salina and Liza.




Figure 1

Do you support the opinion of Salina or Liza? Explain. 



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

9. Mr. Samad has been cultivating strawberries in the lowland area. He does the cultivation in a greenhouse to ensure his crops thrive so that the temperature can be lowered from 25 °C to 18 °C. Unfortunately, the strawberry trees bear very few fruits. According to an agricultural officer who came for a visit, the pollination process by insects rarely occurs in the greenhouse. What are the suggestions that can be given to Mr. Samad to overcome the problem? 

Chapter

7

# Adaptations of Plants in Different Habitats

Chapter

Exploration

- Adaptations of Plants



Learning Standards



Do You

Know?

- Why do plants need to adapt themselves to the environment?
- What are the problems faced by plants that live in the desert?
- What are the adaptive features of plants that live on land and in the water?
- How can plants adapt themselves to the changes in their habitats?



## The Uniqueness of Terrarium

**T**errarium is the name of a transparent glass container to keep small plants or terrestrial animals. Terrarium is a combination of two words, namely 'terra' and 'rium'. 'Terra' means plant, while 'rium' means glass container.

This glass container is often decorated with pebbles, charcoal, soil, succulent plants, cacti and moss as its main medium. Terrarium creates an ecosystem as similar as possible to the environment or natural habitat. The glass is closed to prevent loss of moisture. Therefore, terrarium requires minimum maintenance due to the existence of the natural water cycle (Photograph 7.1).



Photograph 7.1 Terrarium



### Keywords



- Adaptation
- Halophyte
- Hydrophyte
- Lenticel
- Mesophyte
- Xerophyte
- Aerenchyma tissue
- Pneumatophore

# 7.1 Adaptations of Plants

**A**daptation is the adjustment of an organism to the environment. All organisms adapt. Animals and plants have unique structures and shapes to adapt to the environment to ensure the survival of the species. For a plant, this adaptation can be observed in the shape of its leaves, roots, and stem, to adjust itself to live in its habitat. Photograph 7.2 shows examples of plants that live in different habitats. Can you explain the adaptation of the plant in its habitat?



Photograph 7.2 Some examples of plants adapting to different habitats

## Classifications of Plants based on Habitats

Try to list some unique features of plants that can be observed around you. Why do the plants you named need those characteristics? Plants in different habitats have different adaptations. Therefore, plants can be classified into **mesophytes**, **hydrophytes**, **halophytes**, and **xerophytes** (Figure 7.1).

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Collect information about plant classification based on their adaptations in habitats.



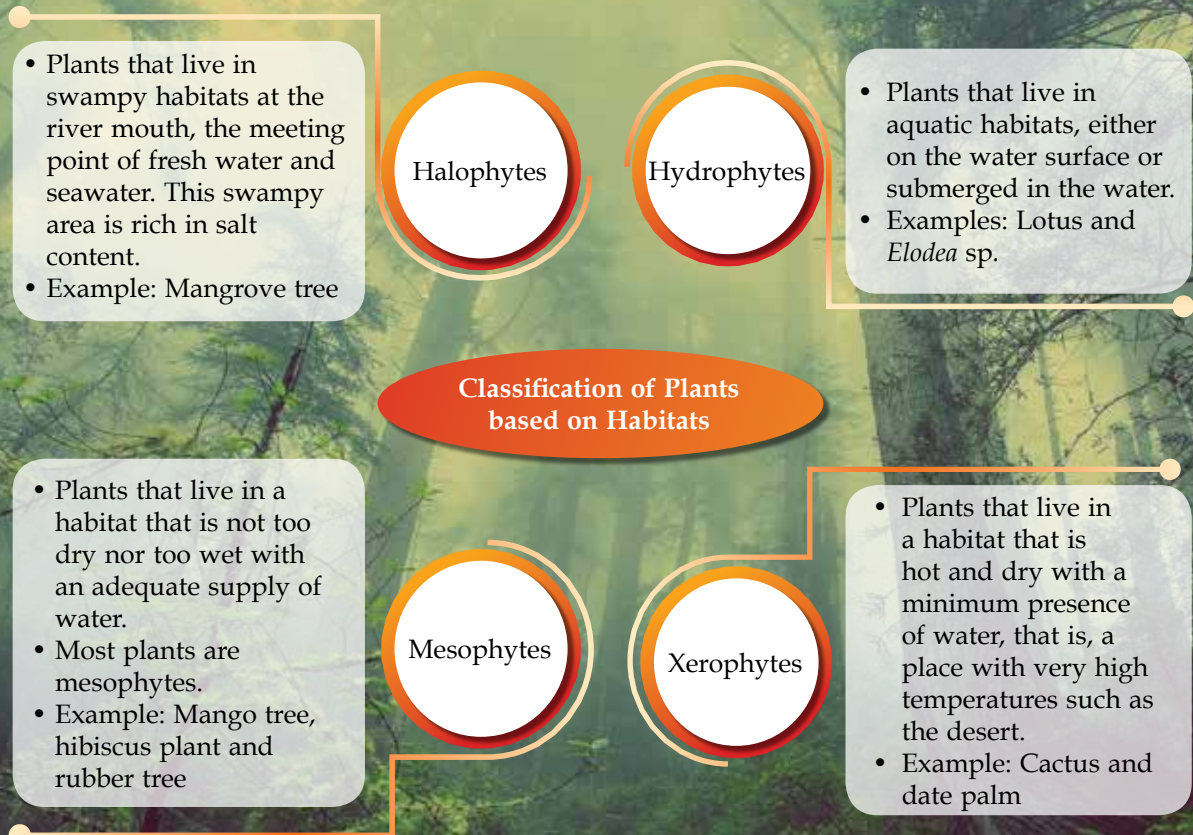
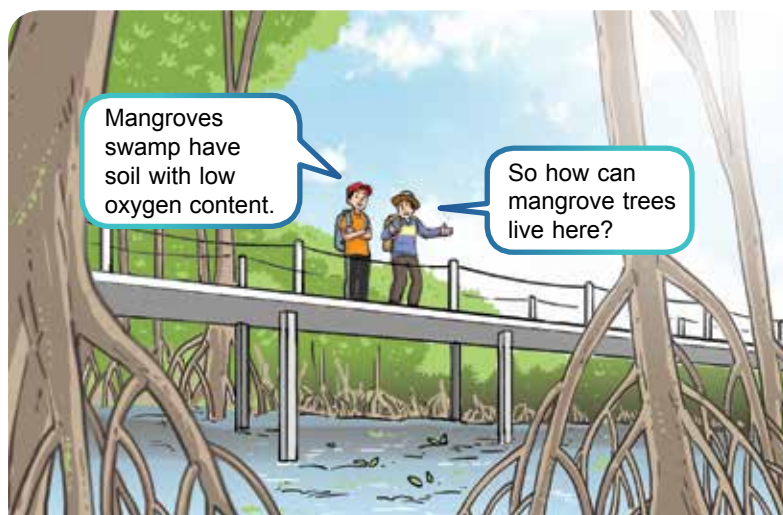


Figure 7.1 Classification of plants based on habitats

## Adaptive Features of Hydrophytes, Halophytes and Xerophytes



## Adaptive Features of Halophytes

Halophytes are plants that can live in a habitat with high **concentration of salt** and low **oxygen content**. Mangrove trees are an example of **halophytes**. Mangrove trees that live here have specific adaptive features to adapt to the environmental conditions. This area is also exposed to high **intensity of light** (Figure 7.2).

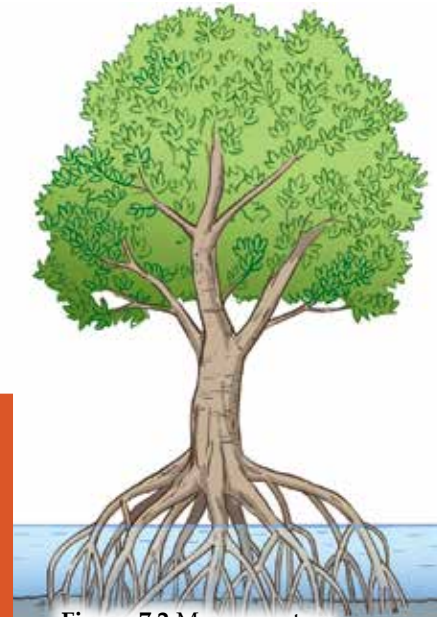


Figure 7.2 Mangrove tree

Leaves

- Leaves with thick cuticle and sunken stomata can reduce the rate of transpiration.
- Succulent leaves can store water.
- Leaves with a special structure known as hydathode eliminate excess salt.
- Old leaves can store salt and fall off when the concentration of salt stored is too high.

Roots

- The root system that branches widely and exists in various shapes and sizes:
  - Provides support for the plants to continue living in the soft and muddy soils.
  - Prevents plants from being uprooted due to strong wind.
- The root system of mangrove trees also produces hundreds of breathing roots that grow vertically upwards above the surface of the soil, called **pneumatophores**.
- There are many pores on this root which are called **lenticels** to enable the exchange of gases with the atmosphere.
- The cell sap of mangrove roots has a higher salt content than sea water. Hence, the cell sap of the roots does not lose water by osmosis. Instead, the mangrove trees receive water and mineral salts from the seawater entering their roots.

## Adaptive Features of Hydrophytes

Hydrophytes (Photograph 7.3) refer to plants that can adapt to their wet habitat, whether by floating on the water surface or sinking in the water. Therefore, most hydrophytes have fibrous roots that provide a large surface area and trap air bubbles to enable the hydrophytes to be more stable and lighter. The adaptation of the roots enables them to float or stay upright in the water as well as the buoyant force exerted by the surrounding water.



*Eichhornia* sp.



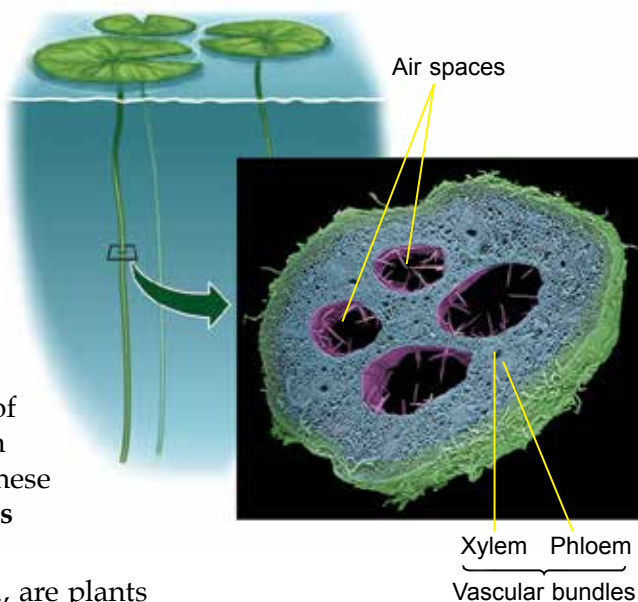
*Hydrilla* sp.



*Elodea* sp.

Photograph 7.3 Some examples of hydrophytes

Floating plants such as the lotus are plants that grow by floating on the water surface with the roots not anchored to the bottom of the lake. The leaves which are broad, thin, and flat help these plants absorb maximum sunlight for photosynthesis. Most of the stomata are distributed on the upper epidermis of the leaves. The upper epidermis of the leaves is also covered by a waxy, waterproof cuticle to ensure the stomata are always open. The stem of these plants consists of light tissues with plenty of air spaces between the cells. These tissues are known as **aerenchyma tissues** (Photograph 7.4).



**Photograph 7.4** Aerenchyma tissues in a lotus

Submerged plants such as *Elodea* sp., are plants that grow completely inside the water. These plants have leaves that are thin and small to increase the total surface area per volume and to increase the diffusion rate of water, mineral salts and dissolved gases directly into the plants through the epidermis. The submerged plants do not have stomata and waxy cuticle on the leaves. Their stems which are small and hollow help these plants float upright in the water and help to reduce water flow resistance.

### Adaptive Features of Xerophytes

In contrast to hydrophytes, the xerophytes live in the desert, an area that receives very little rainfall. However, xerophytes can overcome this problem of extreme dryness. This adaptive ability is what will determine the survival of xerophytes.

The roots of xerophytes (Photograph 7.5) grow widely and can penetrate deep into the soil to absorb water and mineral salts. The absorbed water is stored in the roots, stems and leaves. Besides, the stem of the cactus carries out photosynthesis. The cactus has small leaves and thick waxy cuticles on its stem and leaves. There are also leaves modified into thorns. This feature reduces the total surface area exposed to the sun thus reducing water loss. The presence



**Photograph 7.5** Roots of a cactus

### Bio Exploration

Plants in the Arctic are also classified as xerophytes. This is because the plants in the Arctic cannot absorb water when the ground is frozen.

of thorns can also help the cactus to get water supply by collecting dew. The dew will drop on the ground and is absorbed by the roots. Besides, the thorns can also prevent the plant from being eaten by animals. The stomata in the cactus are embedded to reduce water evaporation from the leaves.

## Activity 7.1



### Aim

To conduct visits to the botanical gardens/ herbal gardens/ agricultural parks to observe the adaptive features of plants in different habitats



Photograph 7.6 Perlis Herbal Forest



Photograph 7.7 Agriculture Heritage Park, Putrajaya

### Procedure

1. The teacher and students conduct visits to the botanical gardens/ herbal gardens/ agricultural parks.
2. Work in groups.
3. Collect information on the types of plants based on their habitats.
4. Then, observe and record the adaptive features of the plants living in their habitat.
5. Take photos of the plants and adaptation structures of the plants studied.
6. Prepare a report in the form of a folio about your visit according to the following format:
  - (a) Title
  - (b) Aim
  - (c) Content
  - (d) Conclusion

## Formative Practice

7.1

1. Halophytes are plants that live in swamps. Explain two adaptive features of these plants to increase the rate of photosynthesis.
2. A group of students studied a tree. Based on their observations for several weeks, the leaves were found to be growing fast on the tree and provide shade to its stem. Additionally, there are thorns on the

leaves and stem of the tree. Its roots grow close to the surface of the ground and some of them grow deep into the soil. In your opinion, what type of plant is this? Support your answer with biological facts.





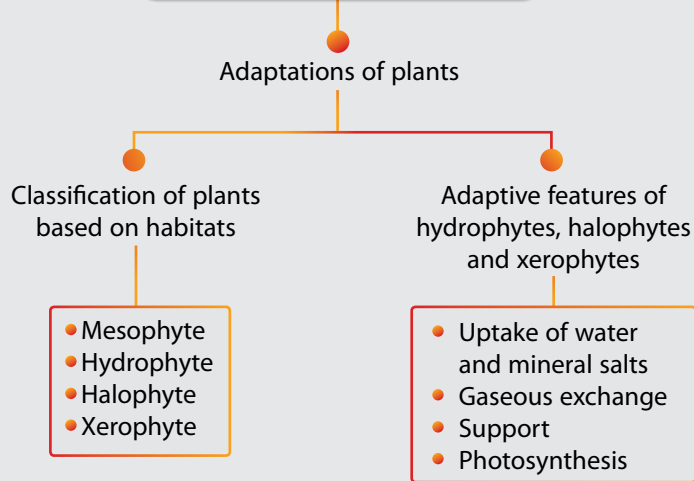
# Memory Flashback



Interactive  
Bio 7



## ADAPTATION OF PLANTS IN HABITATS



## SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.



Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Classification of plants based on habitats, namely mesophytes, hydrophytes, halophytes and xerophytes		
Adaptive features of hydrophytes, halophytes and xerophytes in terms of uptake of water and mineral salts, gaseous exchange, support and photosynthesis		

# Summative Practice

7

1. Figure 1 shows a mangrove swamp ecosystem which has experienced adverse effects because of the water pollution.

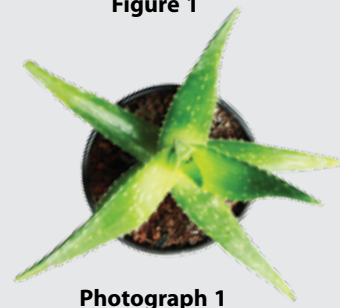
- (a) State the plant classification for mangrove swamps based on their habitat.
- (b) State the problems faced by the plants in the mangrove swamp and explain the adaptive features to overcome the problems.
- (c) Oil spills have adverse effects on the growth of mangrove trees. Predict what will happen to the mangrove trees. Explain your answer.
- (d) In your opinion, can mangrove trees live in a freshwater habitat? Give reasons for your answer.



Figure 1

2. Photograph 1 shows an *Aloe vera* plant in a pot.

- (a) State **two** features that you can observe on the *Aloe vera* plant.
- (b) From the features you stated in question 2(a), identify the type of this plant based on its habitat.
- (c) Explain the adaptive features that enable *Aloe vera* plant to thrive in its habitat.
- (d) If you live in a cold climate country, what is the action that you can take on the *Aloe vera* plant in Photograph 1 to ensure it survives?



Photograph 1

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

3. A hotel located near the beach intends to build a landscape with a combination of elements such as plants, structures and rocks. As a landscape architect, consider examples of plants which are suitable to be grown close to the beach and justify the selection of the plants.

# Theme

## Ecosystem and the Environmental Sustainability

# 2

This theme aims to provide an understanding of biodiversity, ecosystem and environmental sustainability.

The theme also covers studies related to biodiversity, population ecology, practices in preservation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems in addition to emphasis on green technology.



- How are organisms classified and named?
- What is the importance of the mangrove to human beings?
- What are the threats of climate change to humans and environment?
- How can the use of green technology help in environmental sustainability?

## Chapter

# 8

# Biodiversity

## Chapter

### Exploration

- Classification System and Naming of Organisms
- Biodiversity
- Microorganisms and Viruses



Learning Standards



## Do You

### Know?

- How are organisms named and categorised?
- What is meant by biodiversity?
- Why are viruses different from other microorganisms?



## *Panthera tigris jacksoni*

Malaysia is very fortunate to have one of the world's only six existing tiger subspecies which is called the Malayan tiger or scientifically known as *Panthera tigris jacksoni*, that can only be found in Peninsular Malaysia.

Tiger is a protected species under the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716) and is included in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.

Unfortunately, the tiger population has been dwindling since a century ago. To prevent this species from going extinct, the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) has initiated the Save Our Malayan Tigers campaign. Under this initiative, 24-hour surveillance has been carried out in the tiger's natural habitat to protect it from traps laid by poachers.



### Keywords



- Biodiversity
- Prokaryote
- Eukaryote
- Binomial nomenclature system
- Dichotomous key
- Phylogenetic tree
- Microorganism
- Pathogen

# 8.1 Classification System and Naming of Organisms

## The Necessity of Classification System and Naming of Organisms

In Form 2, you have learnt briefly about biodiversity. Biodiversity is the variety of living organisms such as microorganisms, animals and plants that interact with one another. View Photograph 8.1. How are these organisms categorised and named?

**Taxonomy** is a field in biology which involves the classification, identification and naming of organisms in an organised manner (Figure 8.1). Taxonomy strives to manage information and data which has been collected using a systematic and methodical approach to elucidate the scientific community.

### Taxonomic Classification System

#### Classification

Organisms are categorised based on physical features in a **taxonomic hierarchy system**.

#### Identification

Organisms are identified using **dichotomous keys**.

#### Naming

Organisms are named using a **binomial nomenclature system**.

Figure 8.1 Taxonomic classification system

Why is the classification and naming of organisms important? All organisms need to be scientifically classified based on defining features in a systematic manner, in order to facilitate studies and discussions among scientists at an international level.



*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*  
(hibiscus)



*Paphiopedilum* sp.  
(Venus slipper)



*Cetonia aurata*  
(rose chafer)

Photograph 8.1



Photograph 8.2

### History Corner

Carolus Linnaeus (Photograph 8.2) is known as the father of taxonomy. He had created a system to name and classify organisms which is in use even to this day.

## Classification of Organisms

All organisms in the world can be categorised into **six kingdoms** which are **Archaeobacteria**, **Eubacteria**, **Protista**, **Fungi**, **Plantae** and **Animalia**. The organisms are classified based on **types of cells**, **number of cells** and **types of nutrition** (Figure 8.2).

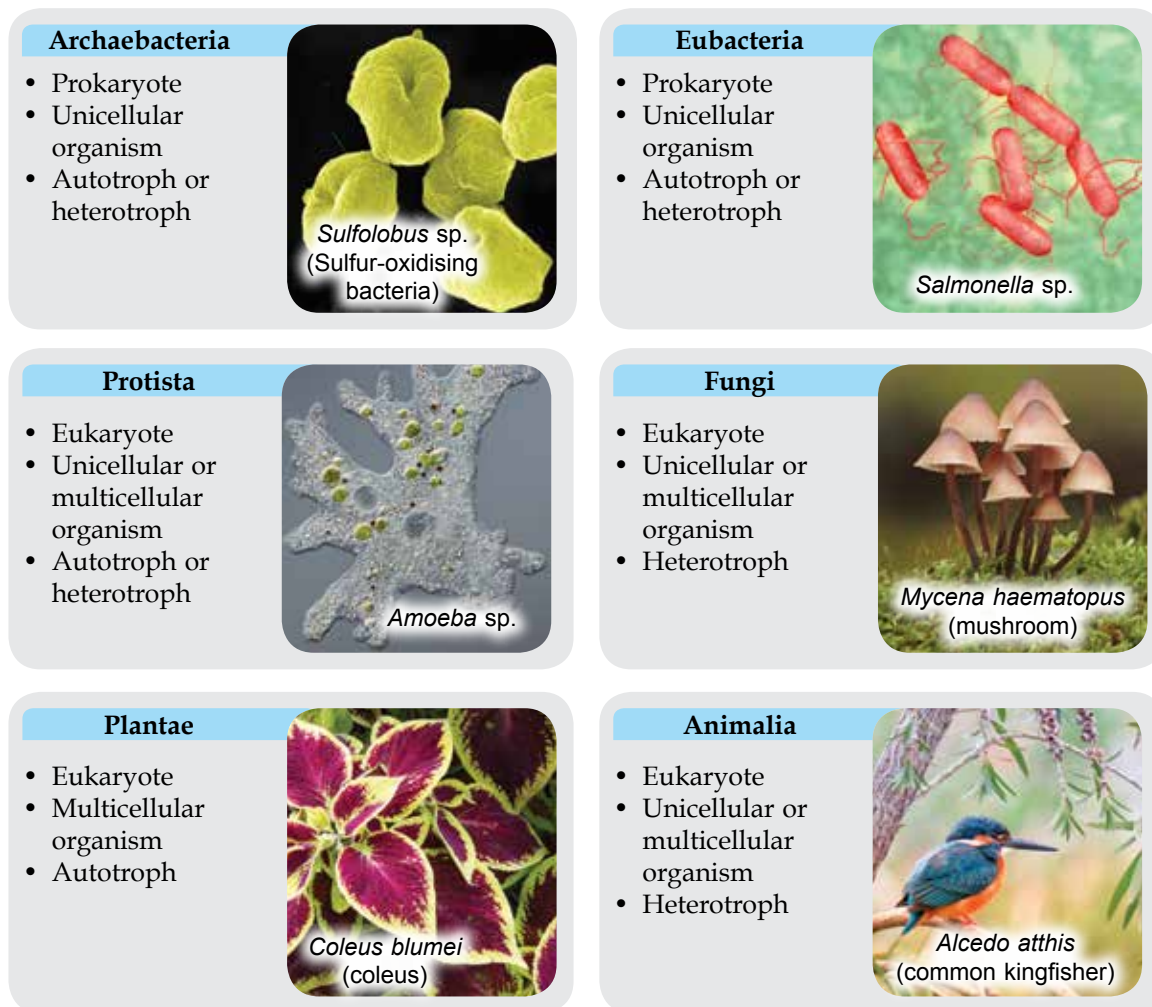


Figure 8.2 The six kingdoms

### TERM ANALYSIS



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prokaryote: A type of cell which lacks a membrane-bound nucleus and membrane-enclosed organelles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eukaryote: Has a nucleus and membrane-enclosed organelles</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unicellular: Single-celled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multicellular: More than one cell</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heterotroph: An organism that cannot synthesise its own food but obtains food molecules by eating other organisms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autotroph: An organism that can synthesise its own food from organic materials by using light energy or chemical energy</li> </ul>

## The Main Features of Organisms in Each Kingdom

### Archaeobacteria

- Is a **prokaryote** organism
- Is a **unicellular** organism
- Are **primitive bacteria**
- Has cell walls with no **peptidoglycan**
- Lives in very hot, acidic, salty or anaerobic environments
- Can be divided into three groups based on their habitats:
  - **Methanogen:**  
Obligate anaerobic bacteria are found in swamps and the digestive tract of ruminants and humans. Produces methane as a metabolic byproduct.
  - **Halophile:**  
Found in places with extremely high salt concentration, such as the Dead Sea.
  - **Thermophile:**  
Bacteria that can withstand high temperatures and flourishes at an optimum temperature of 60 °C to 80 °C. Found in hot springs and highly acidic locations like the Yellowstone National Park in the U.S.
- Examples: *Sulfolobus sp.* (sulfur-oxidising bacteria) and *Halobacterium salinarum*



*Halobacterium salinarum*

Photograph 8.3 Archaeobacteria

### Eubacteria

- Is a **prokaryote** organism
- Is a **unicellular** organism, usually form colonies
- Also known as “**true**” bacteria
- Has cell walls made up of **peptidoglycan**. Peptidoglycan is also known as **murein** which is a polymer made up of sugars and amino acids.
- The cytoplasm of the eubacteria contains **ribosome** and **plasmids** but has none of the membrane-enclosed organelles like the mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum and others.
- Bacteria are classified according to their shape.
- Examples: *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Vibrio cholerae*



*Streptococcus pneumoniae*



*Vibrio cholerae*

Photograph 8.4 Eubacteria

### History Corner

Robert Whittaker (1969) introduced five kingdoms, namely Monera, Protista, Fungi, Plantae and Animalia. However, developments in the study of biomolecules found differences in RNA between bacteria and archaeobacteria. Carl Woese (1990) proposed the six kingdom system by breaking down the Monera kingdom to bacteria and archaeobacteria.

### Bio Exploration

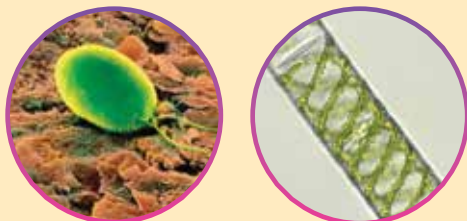
Blue-green algae, Cyanobacteria (Photograph 8.5) contains chloroplast and can undergo photosynthesis.



Photograph 8.5 Cyanobacteria

### Protista

- Is a **eukaryote** organism
- Can either be a **unicellular** or a **multicellular** organism
- Can either be a **heterotroph** or an **autotroph** or **both**
- Has a simple cell organisation without specialised tissue
- The cells contain a nucleus that is bound by a nuclear membrane as well as other membrane-bound organelles.
- Protists are divided into three groups: protozoa, algae and slime mould.
- Examples of protozoa: *Euglena* sp., *Amoeba* sp. and *Paramecium* sp.
- Examples of algae: *Chlamydomonas* sp. and *Spirogyra* sp.
- Examples of slime mould: *Physarum polycephalum*



*Chlamydomonas* sp.      *Spirogyra* sp.

Photograph 8.6 Protista

### Fungi

- Is a **eukaryote** organism
- Can either be a **unicellular** or a **multicellular** organism
- They are also **heterotrophs** (saprophytes or parasites)
- Their cell wall is made up of **chitin**
- The body is made up of a thread-like network of hyphae called the **mycelium**
- Examples: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (yeast) and *Agaricus* sp. (mushroom)



*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

*Agaricus* sp.

Photograph 8.7 Fungi

### Plantae

- Is a **eukaryote** organism
- Includes all **multicellular** plants
- Can synthesise own food via photosynthesis (photoautotroph) because they have chlorophyll
- Can undergo **sexual** or **asexual reproduction**
- Examples: Seedless plants (ferns) and plants with seeds (all flowering plants)



Photograph 8.8 *Bougainvillea* sp.

### Animalia

- A **eukaryote** organism
- Involves all **multicellular** animals
- **Heterotrophs**
- Most animals can move
- Most animals reproduce **sexually**
- Examples: Invertebrate (starfish) and vertebrate (elephant)



*Elephas maximus*

*Asterias* sp.

Photograph 8.9 Animalia

## Activity 8.1



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

### Aim

To collect information and present the main characteristics of organisms from each kingdom

### Procedure

1. Work in pairs.
2. Collect information about the main characteristics of organisms from all six kingdoms.
3. Copy this table onto a large piece of paper and complete it.

Kingdom	Number of cells	Structure of cell wall	Presence of chlorophyll	Presence of nucleus	Example of organisms
Archaeobacteria					
Eubacteria					
Protista	Unicellular and multicellular				
Fungi		Chitin cell wall	No chlorophyll	Present	
Plantae					
Animalia					

4. Present your table in the class.

## Taxonomy Hierarchy

The hierarchy system used in taxonomy is the **Linnaeus hierarchy system**. The Linnaeus hierarchy system classifies organisms according to hierarchy, starting from species to domain. The orders of the hierarchy are domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus and species.

**Domain** is the highest taxonomic rank of organisms in the hierarchical biological classification system. Each **kingdom** is divided into smaller groups called **phylum**. Organisms in the same phylum have mutual characteristics. Organisms in a particular phylum are different from organisms from different phylum. Phylum is further divided into **class**, while class is divided into **order**. By using the same method, order is divided into **family**, family is divided into **genus** and genus is divided into **species**. A species is the smallest group used to classify organisms. Organisms of the same species are capable of interbreeding among themselves to produce viable fertile offsprings. This classification order is known as the **taxonomy hierarchy** (Figure 8.3).



Research Fellow from Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Dr. Saw Leng Guan (Photograph 8.10) received the prestigious Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) award in 2016. RBGE is an internationally renowned research institute which is known for their study of plants, diversity and conservation efforts worldwide. Dr. Saw Leng Guan is a taxonomist who has greatly contributed to the biodiversity research in Malaysia for over 30 years.



Photograph 8.10

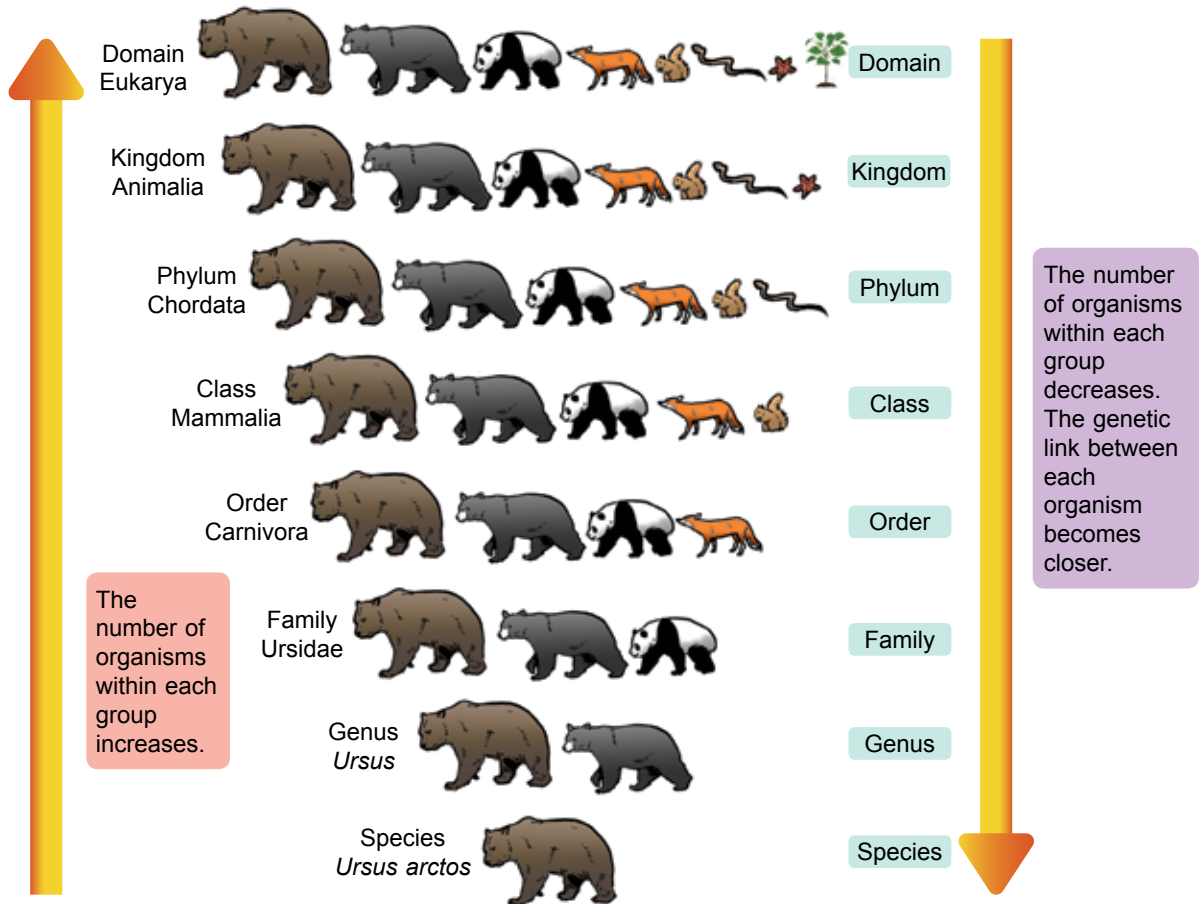


Figure 8.3 Taxonomy hierarchy

## Binomial Nomenclature System

The formal system of naming organisms practised today is called the **Linnaeus binomial system**. How do you write the scientific name of an organism?

- 1 Each scientific name consists of two words: the first word is the name of the **genus**, the second word is the name of the **species**.
- 2 The first letter of the genus is capitalised while the name of the species is not.
- 3 All scientific names must be printed in italics. If handwritten, the two names must be underlined separately (Table 8.1 and 8.2).

Table 8.1 How to write scientific names

Common name	Genus name	Species name	Scientific name (Handwritten)	Scientific name (Printed)
Common kingfisher	<i>Alcedo</i>	<i>atthis</i>	<u>Alcedo</u> <u>atthis</u>	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>

Photography 8.11  
*Alcedo atthis*

**Table 8.2** How to write scientific names of a few organisms

Common name	Scientific name	
	Handwritten	Printed
Green paddy frog	<u>Rana erythraea</u>	<i>Rana erythraea</i>
Paddy	<u>Oryza sativa</u>	<i>Oryza sativa</i>
Sacred lotus	<u>Nelumbo nucifera</u>	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i>
Common sunflower	<u>Helianthus annuus</u>	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>

The scientific name given to all organisms is accepted and used worldwide. Each given name usually provides an idea of the organisms traits, the state of their habitat, their country of origin or to honour the researchers that had studied them. For example, in the scientific name for the pea plant, *Pisum sativum* L., the L refers to Linnaeus, the first person who named the plant.

## Innovation in Malaysia

Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) has produced new orchid hybrids across multiple orchid genus. One particular species, *Dendrobium maharia* was later renamed as *Dendrobium Datin Seri Jeanne*, after the wife of the Prime Minister of Malaysia at the time, Tun Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi (Photograph 8.12).



Photograph 8.12

## ACTIVITY ZONE

Observe the plants in your school environment. Identify the common names of the plant and identify their scientific names based on the binomial nomenclature system. You can scan this QR Code to find the scientific names of plants found in Malaysia.



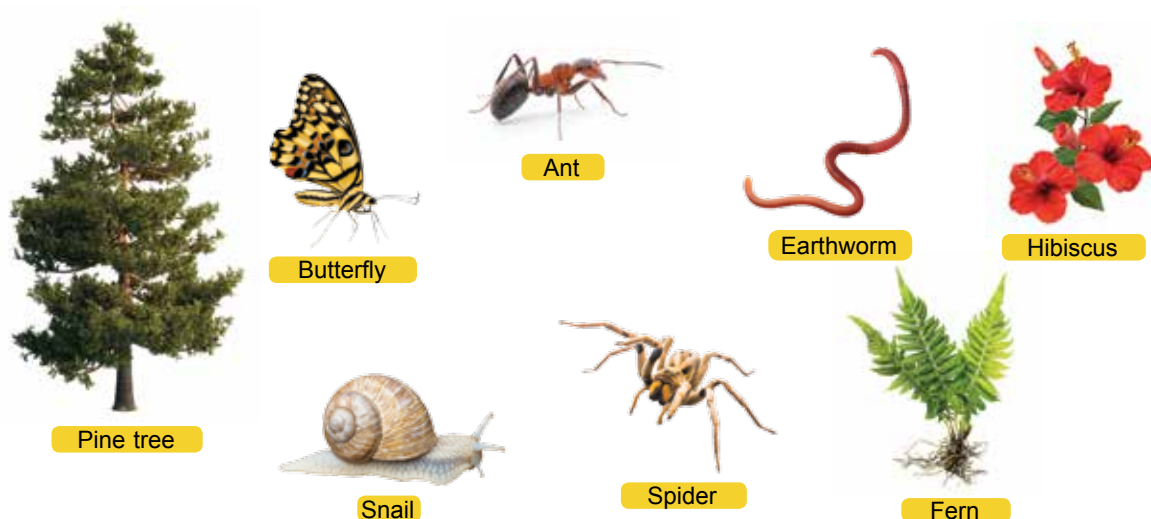
Info

**Biodiversity in Malaysia**  
bukutekskssm.my/Biologi/T5/Ms150

## Dichotomous Key

A **dichotomous key** is a tool used by taxonomists to identify organisms based on similarities and differences. One of the ways to build a dichotomous key, covered in Form 2, is by using a **series of couplets**. Each couplet is made up of two statements about the organism's traits or its grouping (Figure 8.4).





	<u>Dichotomous key</u>
1a Animals .....	Go to 2
1b Plants .....	Go to 6
2a Has legs .....	Go to 3
2b Does not have legs .....	Go to 5
3a Three pairs of legs .....	Go to 4
3b More than three pairs of legs .....	<b>Spider</b>
4a Has wings .....	<b>Butterfly</b>
4b Does not have wings .....	<b>Ant</b>
5a Has shell .....	<b>Snail</b>
5b Does not have shell .....	<b>Earthworm</b>
6a Has seeds .....	Go to 7
6b Does not have seeds .....	<b>Fern</b>
7a Flowering plant .....	<b>Hibiscus</b>
7b Non-flowering plant .....	<b>Pine tree</b>

**Figure 8.4** A sample of a dichotomous key

A dichotomous key is specific to an identification process. When identifying other organisms, a different set of dichotomous key is used. The traits chosen must be based on obvious and observable features. Overlapping traits must be avoided. Do you know that there is another way to produce a dichotomous key for identifying organisms? Let's look at Figure 8.5.

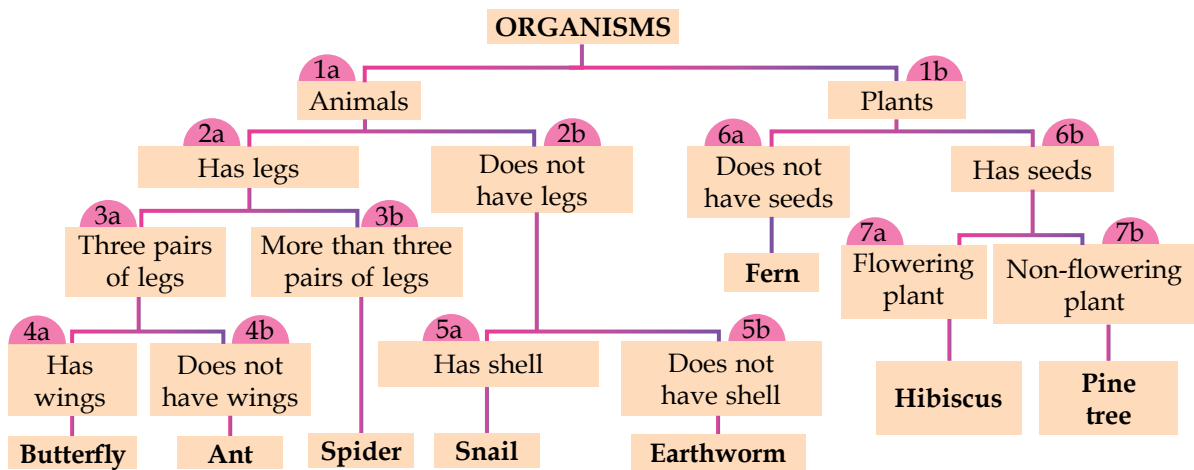


Figure 8.5 Spider dichotomous key

## Formative Practice

8.1

1. State **two** characteristics of organisms from the kingdom Fungi.
2. How is an organism classified based on the taxonomy hierarchy?
3. Who introduced the binomial nomenclature system?
4. How is an organism named based on the binomial nomenclature system?

# 8.2 Biodiversity

## Concept of Biodiversity

**B**iodiversity can be divided into three types: **genetic diversity**, **species diversity** and **ecosystem diversity** (Table 8.3).

Table 8.3 Types of biodiversity

Genetic diversity	Species diversity	Ecosystem diversity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Genetic diversity</b> refers to the genes variation of an individual within a population and the genes variation between different populations of the same species. Differences in genes are due to individual isolation and adaptation to different environments.</li> <li>• No two individuals of the same species are identical.</li> <li>• Example: The huge variety in gene combination allows for genetic variation in plants such as paddy. There are many varieties of cultivated rice all over the world.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Species diversity</b> refers to the variation and variability of organisms on Earth.</li> <li>• Species diversity includes the total number of species in a community (species richness) and the species distribution in a community (species evenness).</li> <li>• Example: Tropical rainforests have large species diversities. There are 5-10 million of insect species while there can be more than two million species of flowering plants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ecosystem diversity</b> refers to the biotic community and ecological process in ecosystems on the land, in the sea and other aquatic environments.</li> <li>• Example: There are ecosystems rich with biodiversity that can be found in the ocean, in the desert or even in the swamp.</li> </ul>

## Activity 8.2



### Aim

To conduct a field study at a botanical garden or an agricultural site and do a presentation on the *in situ* species diversity

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Teachers are to conduct a visit to a botanical garden or an agricultural site for the students.
3. In a group, identify the species diversity that is in the area.
4. Take photos of the identified species and use the photos as reference for the naming of the species.
5. Prepare a folio about species diversity in one week.
6. Present your folio in class.

## Phylogenetic Tree

**Phylogeny** means the evolutionary history of a species or a group of organisms that are genetically linked. A phylogenetic tree is a diagram that represents hypotheses on evolutionary relationships among a group of organisms. Phylogenetic classification is the classification system that shows the evolutionary relationship and history of the studied organism. Phylogenetic classification is now used in many modern classification systems.

In phylogenetic classification, classification is done using a **homologous structure**. A homologous structure refers to a structure (body parts or body anatomy) that can be observed across multiple organisms which share the same ancestor even though the function of the structure may differ from one organism to another. Figure 8.6 shows the limbs of four animals, namely human, cat, whale and bat, which share the same bone structure but differ greatly in size and length.

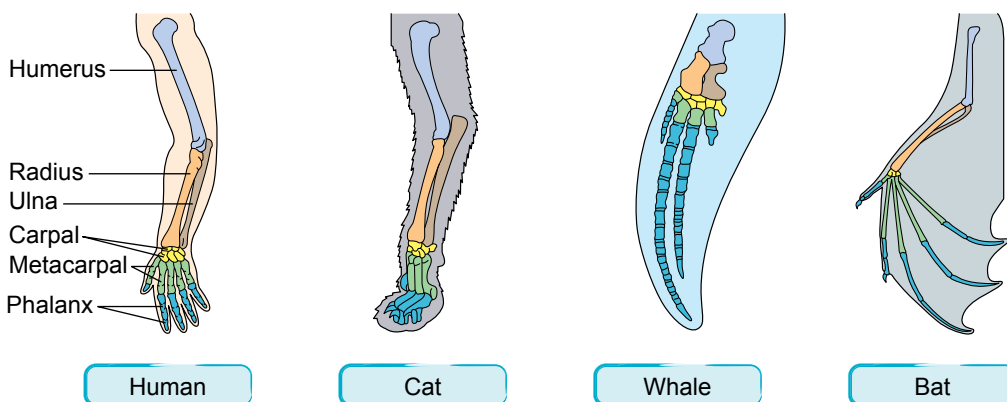
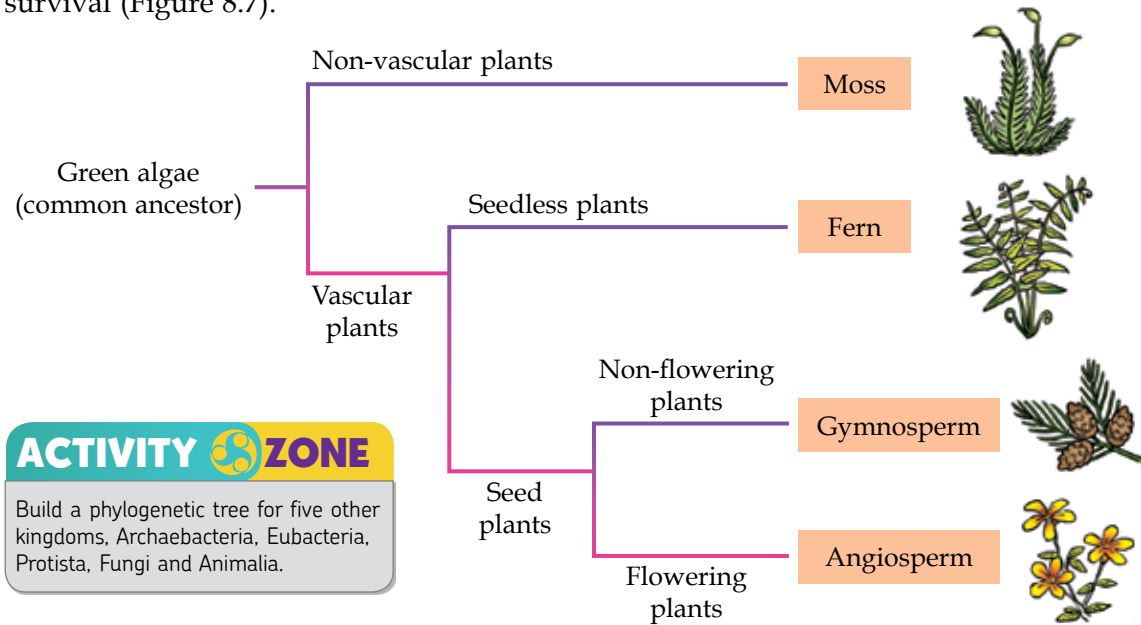


Figure 8.6 Homologous structures in multiple organisms

Despite the differences in function, it is clear that the limbs of the four animals originate from one common ancestor. The evolutionary relationship and history between different types of species can be depicted via a phylogenetic tree. The branches in a phylogenetic tree show how a species or a group of organisms diverge from the same ancestor.

Evidence suggests that land plants evolved from green algae. First land plants originated from non-vascular plants such as mosses, followed by seedless vascular plants such as ferns. Vascular plants then advance into gymnosperms and angiosperms, which are vascular plants with seed. Examples of gymnosperms and angiosperms are conifers and flowering plants respectively. Angiosperms are considered as the most successful plants since their seeds are enclosed inside the fruits to ensure species survival (Figure 8.7).



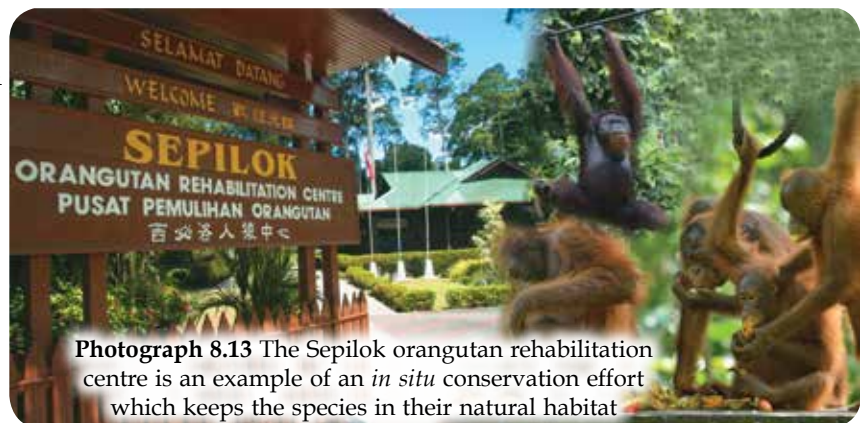
**ACTIVITY ZONE**

Build a phylogenetic tree for five other kingdoms, Archaeobacteria, Eubacteria, Protista, Fungi and Animalia.

Figure 8.7 Phylogenetic tree of land plant

## The Importance of Biodiversity on the Environment and Humans

In Form 2, you have learnt the importance of biodiversity as sources of food, medicine and education. Biodiversity also maintains a balance in nature, for both recreation and scientific research. Hence, every individual, organisations and the government must play their roles in preserving and conserving biodiversity. Can you state the measures taken in Malaysia for *in situ* conservation and *ex situ* conservation? *In situ* conservation maintains species in their natural habitat such as in the National Park and permanent forest reserves (Photograph 8.13). *Ex situ* conservation is efforts to conserve species found outside of their natural habitats such as in zoos and botanical gardens.



Photograph 8.13 The Sepilok orangutan rehabilitation centre is an example of an *in situ* conservation effort which keeps the species in their natural habitat

## Activity 8.3

THREE STRAY  
ONE STAY**Aim**

To discuss the effects of a threat to biodiversity towards the environment and humans

**Procedure**

1. Work in groups.
2. Find information from various sources about the following issues:
  - (a) Deforestation
  - (b) Illegal hunting
  - (c) Water pollution
  - (d) Tourism and its exploitation of biodiversity
3. Discuss the effects of the issues towards the environment and humans.
4. Conduct your presentation using the three stray one stay method in the class.

## Formative Practice 8.2

1. Explain ecosystem diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity.
2. Why do biologists use phylogenetic trees?
3. What is your role in preserving and conserving biodiversity in Malaysia?
4. State **two** importances of biodiversity towards humans.

## 8.3 Microorganisms and Viruses

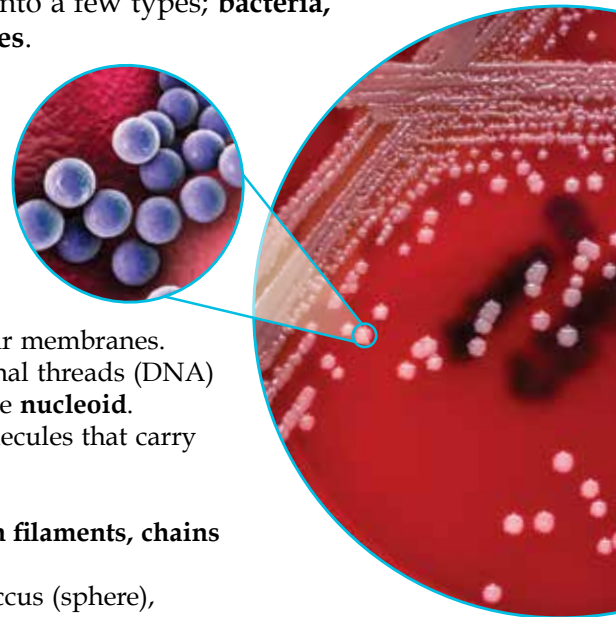
Microorganisms are microscopic organisms that cannot be seen by the naked eye. These organisms can only be observed under the microscope. Most microorganisms are unicellular. Microorganisms can be divided into a few types; **bacteria**, **protozoa**, **algae**, **fungi** and **viruses**.

### The Main Characteristics of Microorganisms and Viruses

#### Bacteria

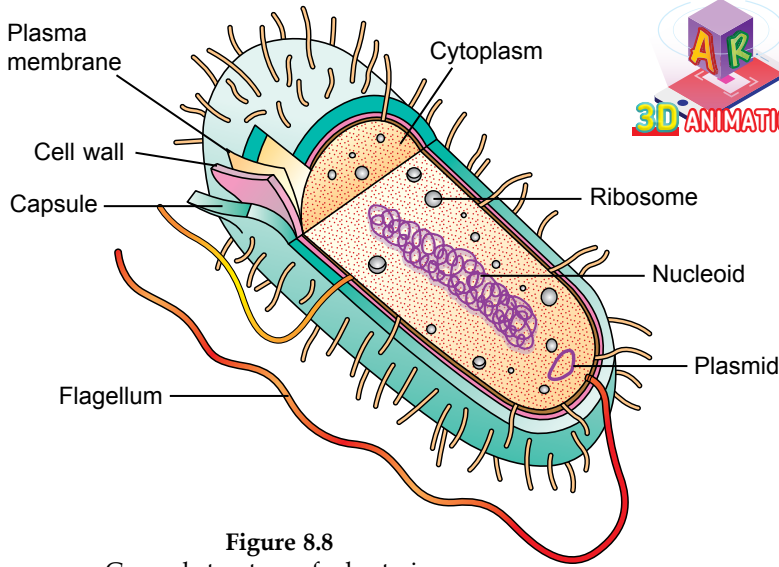
Main characteristics of bacteria:

- **Bacteria** do not have nucleus due to the lack of nuclear membranes. Their genetic materials exist in the form of chromosomal threads (DNA) free-floating inside the cytoplasm. This is known as the **nucleoid**. Some bacteria have **plasmid**, which is small DNA molecules that carry extra genes (Figure 8.8).
- Bacteria range from **1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$**  long.
- Bacteria can exist as **a single cell**, **a diploid** (a pair), **in filaments**, **chains** or **clusters**.
- Bacteria can exist in a few basic shapes such as the coccus (sphere), vibrio (comma), bacillus (rod/cylinder) and spirillum (spiral) (Figure 8.9).
- Examples of bacteria include *Lactobacillus* sp., *Streptococcus* sp. and *Staphylococcus aureus* (Photograph 8.14).



**Photograph 8.14**  
*Staphylococcus aureus*

8.2.3 8.3.1



**Figure 8.8**  
General structure of a bacterium



**Figure 8.9** Shapes of bacteria

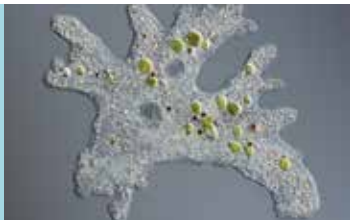
## Protozoa

Main characteristics of protozoa:

- **Protozoa** are animal-like **unicellular** microorganisms.
- Protozoa move around using **pseudopodia** (false feet), **cilia** or **flagellum** (Figure 8.10).
- Protozoa are usually found in aquatic habitats (Photograph 8.15).
- Protozoa are **heterotrophs** or **autotrophs**. *Euglena* sp. is an autotrophic protozoa with chloroplasts that can undergo photosynthesis.
- Protozoa can be free-living or parasitic.



*Acanthamoeba* sp. is found in tap water. This organism can damage eye cornea. Thus, we are advised to not use tap water to clean contact lenses. It is safer to use sterile cleansing solutions.



*Amoeba* sp. moves by using pseudopodia



*Paramecium* sp. moves by using cilia



*Euglena* sp. moves by using a flagellum

**Figure 8.10** Examples of protozoa



**Photograph 8.15** Protozoa are found in aquatic habitats

## Algae

Main characteristics of algae:

- Consist of unicellular microorganisms like *Chlamydomonas* sp. and multicellular organisms such as the brown algae, *Fucus* sp. (Photograph 8.16).
- Some algae have **flagellum** to move in water.
- Like plants, algae have chloroplasts and are therefore **autotrophs**. However, algae do not have leaves, stems, or roots like plants do.
- Algae live in ponds, lakes and ocean.



*Chlamydomonas* sp.



*Fucus* sp.

Photograph 8.16 Examples of algae

## Fungi

Main characteristics of fungi:

- Fungi do not contain chlorophyll, thus fungi are **heterotrophs**, either **parasites** or **saprophytes**.
- Fungi do not contain roots, stems and leaves.
- Fungi have cell walls created by chitin.
- Fungi exist in the form of **mycelium**, which is made up of a network of threads called the **hyphae**.
- Fungi are unicellular microorganisms (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (yeast)) or multicellular microorganisms (*Mucor* sp.) (Figure 8.11 and 8.12).
- Fungi are found in dark or moist places and on decomposing or dead organisms.

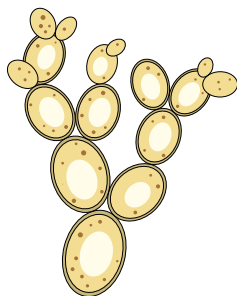


Figure 8.11

*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* structure

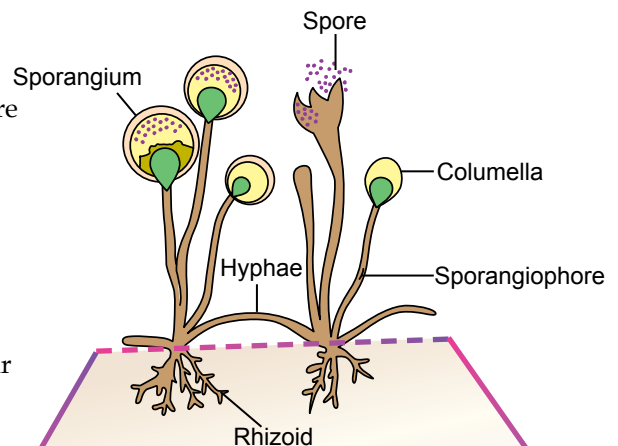
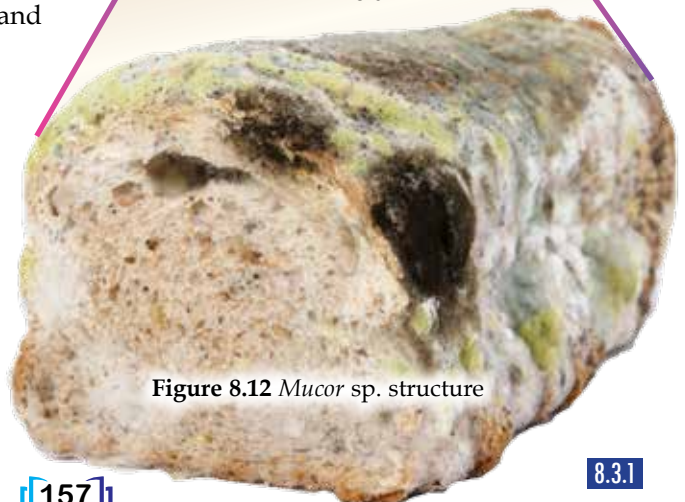


Figure 8.12 *Mucor* sp. structure



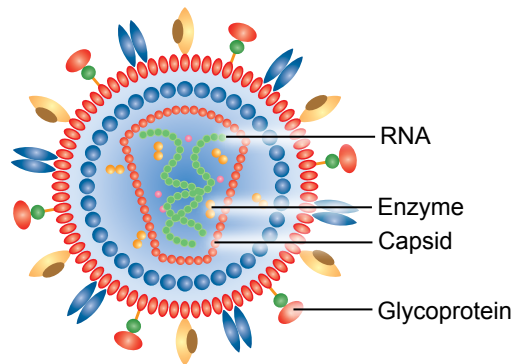
## Viruses

Main characteristics of viruses:

- Viruses are not included in any of the kingdoms because they are not cellular organisms.
- The virus does not carry out any life process outside of a cell. Nonetheless, viruses reproduce using living cells by injecting their genetic materials into host cells.
- Viruses are made up of nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) and capsids made from protein.
- The size of a virus is too small (20 nm to 400 nm), therefore virus cannot be seen using a light microscope but can only be seen using an electron microscope.
- Examples of virus are tobacco mosaic virus, T<sub>4</sub> bacteriophage and HIV (Figure 8.13).



T<sub>4</sub> bacteriophage



Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Figure 8.13 Examples of viruses

### Activity 8.4



DEBATE

#### Aim

To debate the status of a virus as a non-living thing

#### Procedure

1. Assign one student as a chairman and three students as the panels.
2. Conduct a forum to debate the status of a virus as a non-living thing.
3. Other students may remain as part of the audience and jot down important points from the debate.
4. Prepare a report using the following format:  
(a) Title                      (b) Aim                      (c) Content                      (d) Conclusion



## The Role of Microorganisms in the Nitrogen Cycle

Plants require nitrogen to synthesise protein in plant tissues and this nitrogen is obtained from the soil in the form of **ammonium ions** ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) and **nitrate ions** ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ). How can the nitrogen gas from the atmosphere be converted into a form that can be used by plants? Let's study the nitrogen cycle in Figure 8.14.

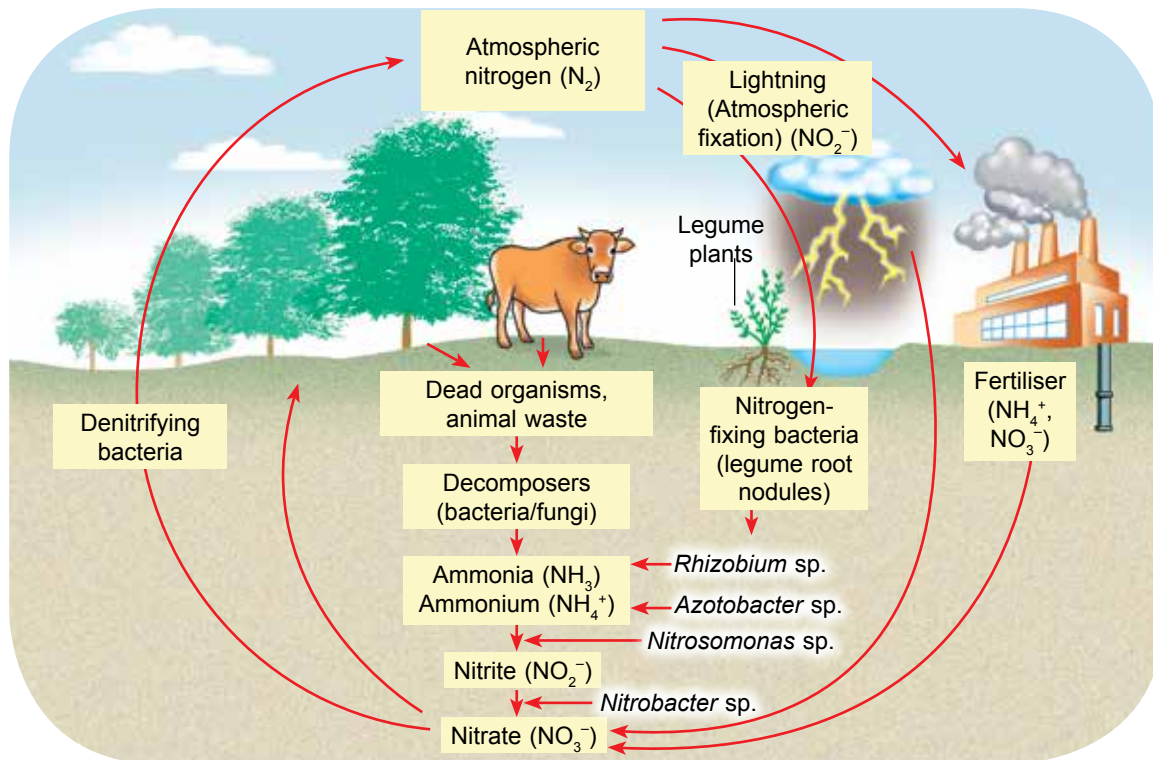


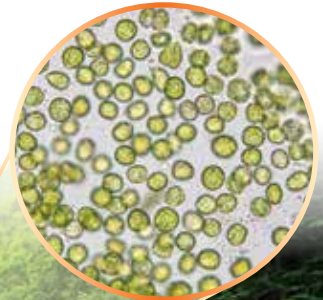
Figure 8.14 Nitrogen cycle

- Nitrogen-fixing bacteria that live in the root nodules of legumes like *Rhizobium sp.* and free-living nitrogen-fixing bacteria in the soil such as *Azotobacter sp.* fix the nitrogen from the atmosphere and change it to **ammonium ions** ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) via the nitrogen-fixing process.
- Lightning in a thunderstorm oxidises nitrogen to nitrogen dioxide ( $\text{NO}_2$ ) which dissolves in rainwater to form nitrous acid and nitric acid. Both form nitrate salts in the soil.
- Industrial fertilisers provide ammonium fertilisers and nitrates in the soil.
- When plants and animals die, decomposition is carried out by decomposers such as bacteria and saprophytic fungi. Protein in body tissue will be broken down into ammonium ions ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) via ammonification.
- Ammonium ions are converted into **nitrite ions** ( $\text{NO}_2^-$ ) via nitrification by the nitrifying bacteria *Nitrosomonas sp.*
- Nitrite ions will be converted to **nitrate ions** ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ) by the nitrifying bacteria, *Nitrobacter sp.*
- The nitrates will then be absorbed by plant roots and used to synthesise proteins. When the plants are eaten by animals, nitrogen gets transferred to the animal's tissue.
- Denitrifying bacteria convert nitrates in the soil into nitrogen gas through the **denitrification process**.

## The Role of Microorganisms

### Microorganisms as producers

Microorganisms like **phytoplankton** are usually found floating on the surface of the oceans, ponds or lakes. For instance, green algae, blue-green algae (cyanobacteria), dinoflagellates and diatoms. As they have chlorophyll, phytoplankton can undergo photosynthesis. Phytoplankton is important to aquatic ecosystem as **producers** in food chains (Photograph 8.17).



Photograph 8.17  
Phytoplankton

### Microorganisms as decomposers

**Saprophytic fungi** and **saprophytic bacteria** are important microorganisms that decompose organic materials from dead organisms. Saprophytic fungi and bacteria are known as **decomposers**. Decomposers break down complex organic materials such as animal wastes, carcasses and rotting trees (Photograph 8.18) into simple compounds such as ammonium. Decomposers secrete digestive enzymes into the decaying organic materials, then absorb the products of the digestive process. The products of this process contain important elements required by plants such as **carbon, nitrogen** and **sulphur** which are returned to the soil. These materials are then absorbed by plants.



Photograph 8.18  
Fungi on a rotting  
tree trunk

### Microorganisms as parasites

In a **parasitic** relationship, the parasite benefits from the relationship while the host is harmed or sometimes die from the negative effects caused by the parasite. Parasites will continue to benefit for as long as this interaction continues. Hence, most parasites try not to kill their hosts. One of the examples of parasitic microorganisms is *Plasmodium* sp. (Photograph 8.19), a protozoa that lives inside the female *Anopheles* mosquito (Photograph 8.20) and transmits malaria to anyone who is bitten by the mosquito when the parasite is transferred into the blood circulation system of the person.



Photograph 8.19 *Plasmodium* sp.



Photograph 8.20  
Female mosquito  
*Anopheles* sp.

### Microorganism as symbionts

A **symbiont** is an organism which has a close relationship with another organism (known as the host). There are two types of symbionts, **ectosymbionts** (Photograph 8.21) and **endosymbionts** (Photograph 8.22).

#### Symbiont

##### Ectosymbiont

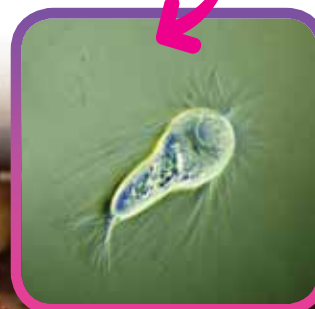
- Lives outside the host cells.
- Example: Ectomycorrhiza, a fungi which lives around plant roots.



Photograph 8.21  
Ectomycorrhiza

##### Endosymbiont

- Lives inside the host cells.
- Example: Protozoa *Trichonympha* sp. which lives in the alimentary canals of termites.



Photograph 8.22  
*Trichonympha* sp. in termites

## Definition of Pathogens and Vectors

### Pathogens



Photograph 8.23  
*Vibrio cholerae*



Photograph 8.24  
*Staphylococcus aureus*

A **pathogen** is an organism which causes diseases. For example, viruses, bacteria, protozoa and fungi.

In Form 2, you have learnt about the pathogens that cause **infectious disease**. An infection is caused when a pathogen such as a virus, bacteria or any other microorganism enters the body, divides and multiplies. The disease caused by pathogens will occur when the cells inside the body are damaged. This is caused by the infection and the infected person shows the symptoms.

### Innovation in Malaysia

In Malaysia, scientists are now using *Wolbachia*, a type of bacteria in the fight against dengue. The bacteria is injected into the eggs of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes to curb the growth of the dengue virus in mosquitoes, thereby stopping the spread of dengue.

### Activity 8.5



### GALLERY WALK

#### Aim

To collect and present information on diseases spread by pathogens

#### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Collect information about diseases caused by pathogens:
  - (a) Virus (example: *Human papillomavirus*)
  - (b) Bacteria (example: *Salmonella* sp.)
  - (c) Protozoa (example: *Plasmodium* sp.)
  - (d) Fungi (example: *Tinea* sp.)
3. Design a poster about the diseases based on your creativity.
4. Display your poster in the class.
5. Then, do a Gallery Walk activity in the class.

## Vectors

Some pathogens are caused by other organisms such as mosquitoes and flies. These organisms are known as **vectors**.

**Vectors** are organisms which transmit pathogens and cause certain diseases.

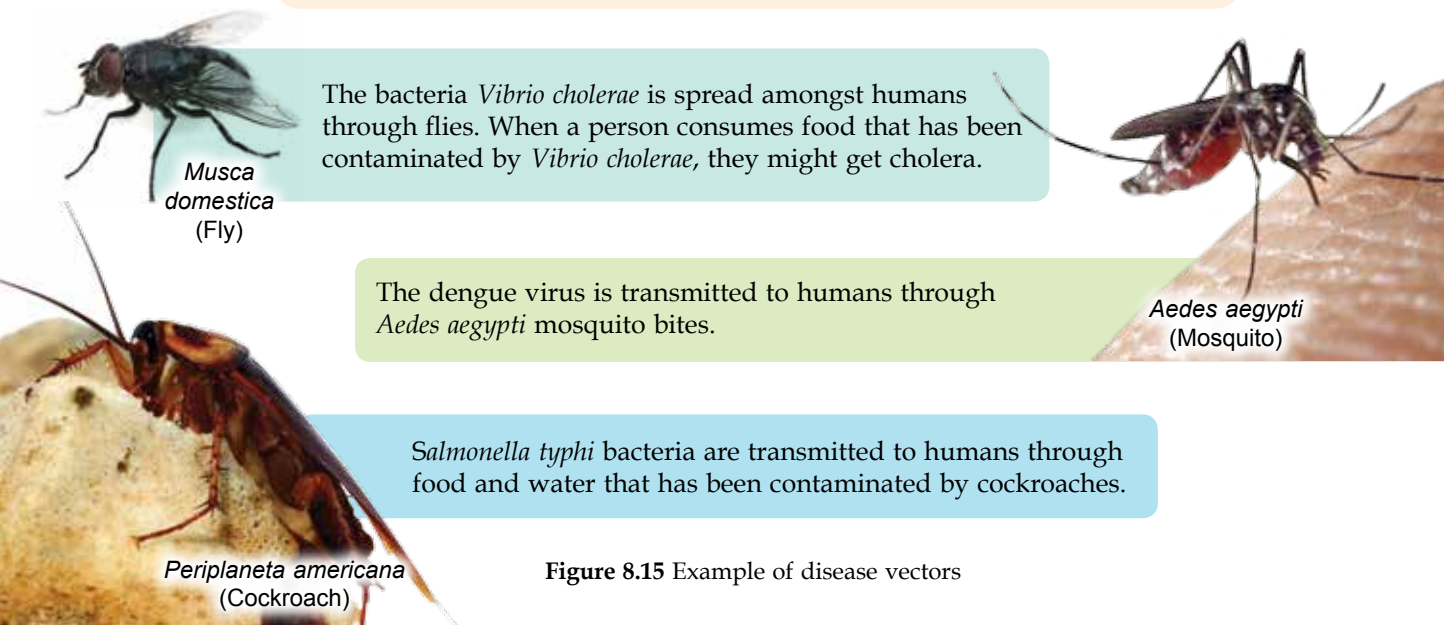


Figure 8.15 Example of disease vectors

### Activity 8.6



#### Aim

To design an environment-friendly trap or deterrent for vectors

#### Procedure

1. In a group, study the following statement:

Old derelict buildings are breeding grounds for rats. This pest spreads infectious diseases and destroys the property of surrounding residents. To solve this problem, an environment-friendly and effective trap is needed to capture and release the rats in another area.

2. Design an effective and environment-friendly trap to remove the rats safely.
3. Test the prototype or model you have built. Improve on any weaknesses found.
4. Present the prototype or model in the class.
5. Prepare a full report.

## The Effects of Pathogens on Human Health

Pathogens disrupt the immunity system in many ways. Viruses or bacteria cause sickness when they disturb cell functions or cause cell damage. Some pathogens release toxins that could lead to paralysis or destroy metabolic activities in the body.

**Table 8.4** Symptoms of disease caused by pathogens

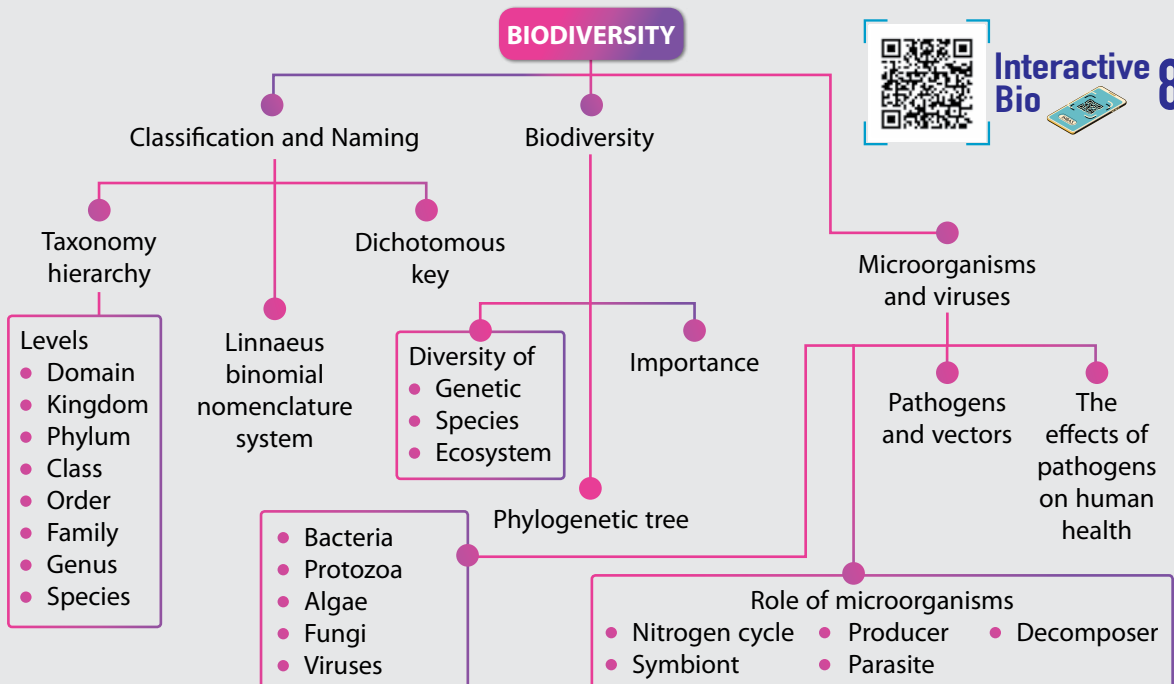
Pathogen	Example of disease	Symptoms of disease
Virus	Hepatitis B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inflammation (hepatic cirrhosis)</li> <li>• Swollen chest</li> <li>• Skin and eyes sclera become yellowish</li> <li>• May cause fatalities</li> </ul>
Bacteria	Tuberculosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of weight</li> <li>• Coughing blood</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> </ul>
Protozoa	Dysentery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stomach ache</li> <li>• Diarrhoea</li> <li>• Vomit</li> </ul>
Fungi	Tinea versicolour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitish or pinkish patches on the skin</li> </ul>

## Formative Practice 8.3

1. Why are viruses not classified into one of the six kingdoms?
2. Why don't parasites kill their hosts?
3. What is the meaning of symbiont? Explain the types of symbionts.
4. State the meaning of pathogens. Give **three** examples of pathogens and their vectors.



## Memory Flashback



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.



Important concepts	Very good	Try again
The necessity of a classification system and the naming of organisms		
Hierarchical classification of organisms in the six kingdoms: (a) Archaeobacteria (b) Eubacteria (c) Protista (d) Fungi (e) Plantae (f) Animalia		
Main features of organisms in each kingdom		
The naming of organisms according to the binomial nomenclature system		
Dichotomous keys to classify organisms		
Biodiversity concepts based on diversities of: (a) Genetic (b) Species (c) Ecosystem		
The meaning of phylogenetic tree		
The importance of biodiversity to the environment and humans		
Main characteristics of microorganisms and viruses: (a) Bacteria (b) Protozoa (c) Algae (d) Fungi (e) Virus		
The role of microorganisms in/as: (a) The nitrogen cycle (b) A producer (c) A decomposer (d) A symbiont (e) A parasite		
Define pathogens and vectors		
The effect of pathogens on human health		

# Summative Practice

8



1. The taxonomy hierarchy for a domestic cat (Photograph 1) is shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Level	Taxon
Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Mamalia
Order	Carnivora
Family	Felidae
Genus	<i>Felis</i>
Species	<i>catus</i>



Photograph 1

- (a) Based on Table 1, what is the scientific name of the domestic cat?  
(b) Using your answer in 1(a), explain the binomial nomenclature system which was introduced by Carolus Linnaeus.



2. Nadine found two amphibious species in a forest as shown in Photograph 2. Both of these amphibians have similar morphologies. How can Nadine determine if these two specimens are of the same species or different species?



Photograph 2

3. Photograph 3 shows a type of fungus on a tree trunk.  
(a) Fungi were previously known as a plant. However, the fungus is now considered to be closer to the animals than to plants. Why are fungi classified into a separate kingdom and not into Plantae or Animalia?  
(b) Predict what would happen in our environment if there are no fungi.





Photograph 3


4. Write a creative essay entitled "Who am I?" with an organism in mind. List characteristics about the organism in your essay.  
5. Describe how nitrogen in the atmosphere can become a part of the animal and plant tissues, then return to the atmosphere in the form of nitrogen gas.






- You have been given a task to classify the organisms found in the herbaceous garden in your school. Describe the method you will use for this task. 
- Suggest **one** way to produce a chemical poison that can be used to kill termites without harming other beneficial insects. 
- Read the statement below.

All organisms depend on one another for species survival. When a species becomes extinct, other species will also be affected by the loss. Species extinction also leaves bad consequences on human life.

Based on this statement, discuss the steps that can be taken to preserve and conserve biodiversity in Malaysia. 



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

- You are given a plot of land and are advised to plant the plants in Photograph 4. Explain how you will use the plants to keep your plot of land fertile. 



Photograph 4

# Chapter

# 9

# Ecosystem

## Chapter

## Exploration

- Community and Ecosystem
- Population Ecology



Learning  
Standards



## Do You

## Know?

- How are the community and ecosystem established?
- What is the niche of a butterfly in its surroundings?
- How does light intensity affect the distribution of plants in a forest?
- What is meant by population ecology?
- What is the difference between population size and population density?



## Tasik Chini Biosphere Reserve

Tasik Chini is a natural national treasure which should be appreciated, protected and marvelled at. In 2009, Tasik Chini has been awarded the biosphere reserve status by UNESCO. Currently, there are 651 sites of biosphere reserve located in 120 countries around the world.

It is important to maintain this biosphere reserve status to help in promoting Tasik Chini as a main destination for eco-tourism in Malaysia. In addition, the status can improve greater social awareness towards efforts in nature preservation and conservation at Tasik Chini.

The lake has been gazetted as a biosphere reserve site because of the rich diversity of its flora and fauna. Tasik Chini has 138 flora species, 300 non-aquatic life species, 144 freshwater species and 304 fauna species.



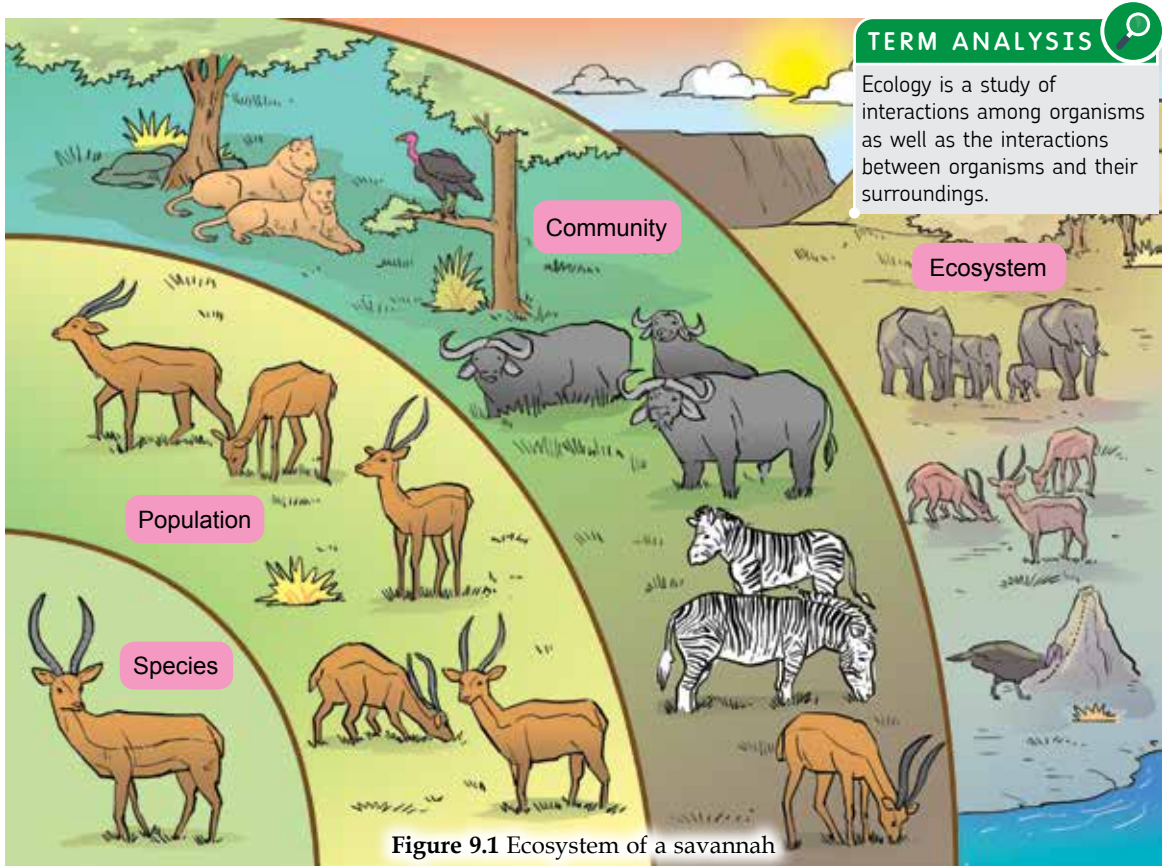
### Keywords



- Niche
- Biotic
- Abiotic
- Altitude
- Aspect
- Topography
- Microclimate
- Autotroph
- Heterotroph
- Photoautotroph
- Chemoautotroph
- Ecological pyramid
- Colonisation
- Succession
- Pioneer species

# 9.1 Community and Ecosystem

Organisms do not just interact with each other but they also interact with non-living things to create a balanced system known as ecosystem (Figure 9.1). Let us understand a few important terms in this chapter.

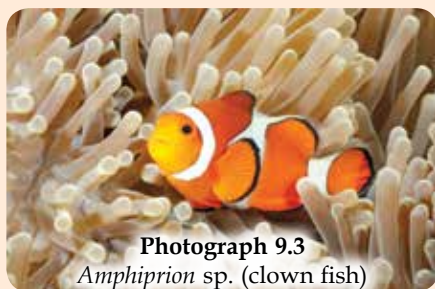


**1** **Habitat** is the natural surrounding or the living place of an organism (Photograph 9.1 and Photograph 9.2).



2

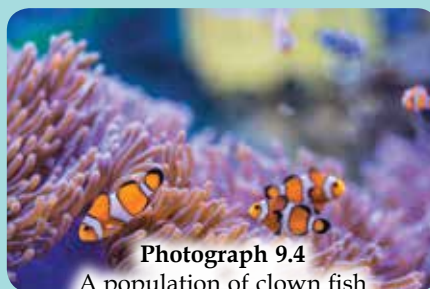
A **species** is a group of similar organisms, able to interbreed and produce offsprings (Photograph 9.3).



Photograph 9.3  
*Amphiprion* sp. (clown fish)

3

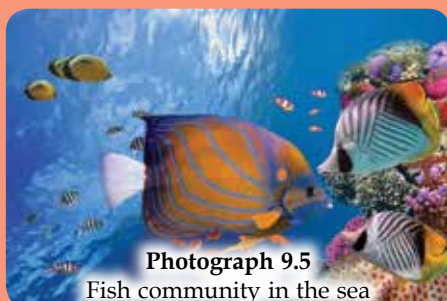
A **population** is a group of organisms of the same species which live in the same habitat (Photograph 9.4).



Photograph 9.4  
A population of clown fish

4

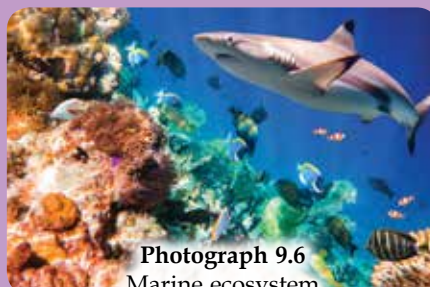
A **community** is the populations of all organisms from different species living in the same habitat whilst interacting with each other (Photograph 9.5).



Photograph 9.5  
Fish community in the sea

5

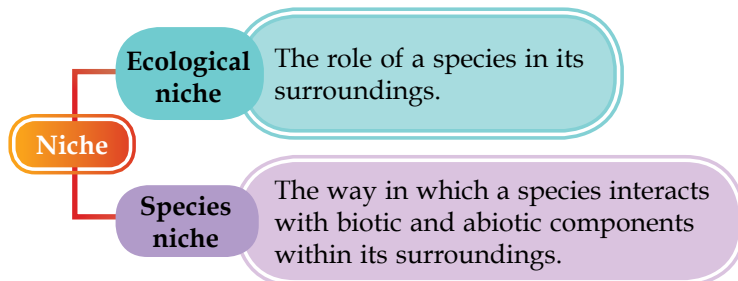
An **ecosystem** is a few communities that live together in a habitat and interact with each other including non-living components (abiotic) such as water, air and soil. (Photograph 9.6).



Photograph 9.6  
Marine ecosystem

6

A **niche** is the role of an organism in an ecosystem which includes its behaviour and interactions with **biotic** and **abiotic components** in the surrounding of its habitat (Figure 9.2).



### Bio Exploration

The niche of an organism can vary according to the morphological change of an organism. For example, the life cycle of a butterfly has a metamorphosis that consists of different niches at each stage of its life.

Figure 9.2 Ecological niche and species niche

## Biotic and Abiotic Components in an Ecosystem

An ecosystem consists of two main components, which are **biotic components** and **abiotic components** (Figure 9.3). Biotic components refer to all organisms in an ecosystem which interact with other organisms. Abiotic components are all the non-living elements including their physical and chemical characteristics that can affect an organism in an ecosystem.

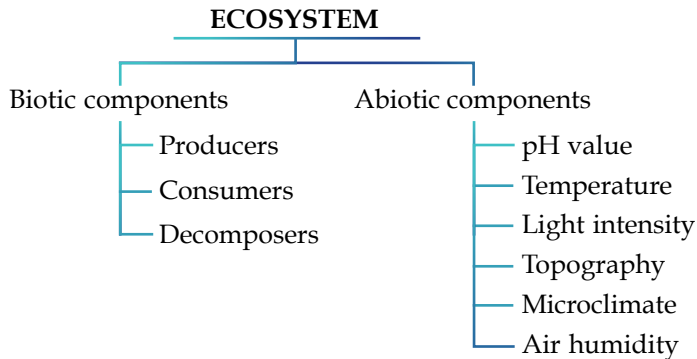


Figure 9.3 Main components of an ecosystem

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Identify the biotic and abiotic components in a field or a pond around your school.

### Abiotic Components

#### pH Value

- **pH value** of soil strongly influences the distribution of living organisms in a habitat. Most organisms are capable of living adequately in a condition in which the pH value is either **neutral** or almost neutral.
- Soil is a habitat for hundred millions of worms and microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi and protozoa (Photograph 9.7).



A little change in pH value disrupts the activities of microorganisms that live in the soil and reduces its fertility.

Photograph 9.7 Soil is inhabited by many earthworms and microorganisms which can maintain the fertility of the soil

## Temperature

- Surrounding **temperature** affects the physiological activities of plants and animals.
- A little change in temperature causes a reduction in the metabolic rate of organisms as all the enzymes that catalyse physiological responses are sensitive towards temperature changes.
- Although most organisms can live within the temperature range of  $20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , there are also organisms which can live in extreme temperatures.
- Polar bears can live in Tundra, a habitat with a temperature of  $-14\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  whereas foxes can live in the desert where the temperature can reach up to  $45\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  during the day (Photograph 9.8).



**Photograph 9.8** Examples of animals that live in areas with extreme temperature

## Light Intensity

- **Light intensity** and duration of sunlight received by a certain region can strongly influence the distribution of organisms especially for plants that carry out photosynthesis.
- Taller plants in tropical rainforests that are exposed to high light intensity form a canopy providing low light intensity underneath.
- Only small plants such as ferns can grow under the canopy (Photograph 9.9).
- Coniferous forests in regions with temperate climate have lower density of plants due to low light intensity.
- Plants in coniferous forests are shorter as well as smaller in size (Photograph 9.10).



**Photograph 9.9** Tropical rainforest



**Photograph 9.10** Coniferous forest

## Topography

- **Topography** is the physical characteristics on the surface of the Earth which include **altitude**, **gradient** and **aspect** (Figure 9.4).
- Topography determines **humidity**, **temperature** and **light intensity** in an ecosystem.



### Altitude

- The higher the **altitude**, the lower the relative humidity, atmospheric pressure and oxygen content.
- Plants at different levels of altitudes are different in types, sizes and density.
- For example, pine trees that grow at higher altitudes are smaller in size compared to *meranti* trees which can be found in tropical rainforest.



### Gradient

- **Steeper** mountain slopes are easily eroded due to swift water movement.
- The soil layer becomes thinner and drier.
- This area has less growth of plants except for some short, thorny shrubs with small and pointed leaves.



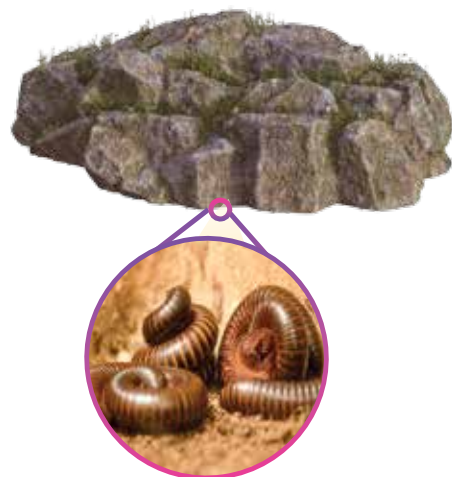
### Aspect

- **Aspect** refers to the direction in which wind blows and the rays of sunlight.
- A mountain slope which faces the sea has denser plants compared to the one facing towards the land.
- This slope also gains more rainfall distribution.
- The slope that receives more sunlight is denser with plants.

Figure 9.4 Topography factors

## Microclimate

- **Microclimate** refers to the climate condition of a small area which is different from the surrounding area.
- Microclimate can take place under the rocks (Photograph 9.11), or beneath the shades of bigger plants of the forest canopy.
- Microclimate depends on **temperature**, **humidity**, **light intensity**, **heat balance**, **atmospheric pressure**, **water evaporation** and **ability of soil** to retain water around an area in order to maintain humidity.

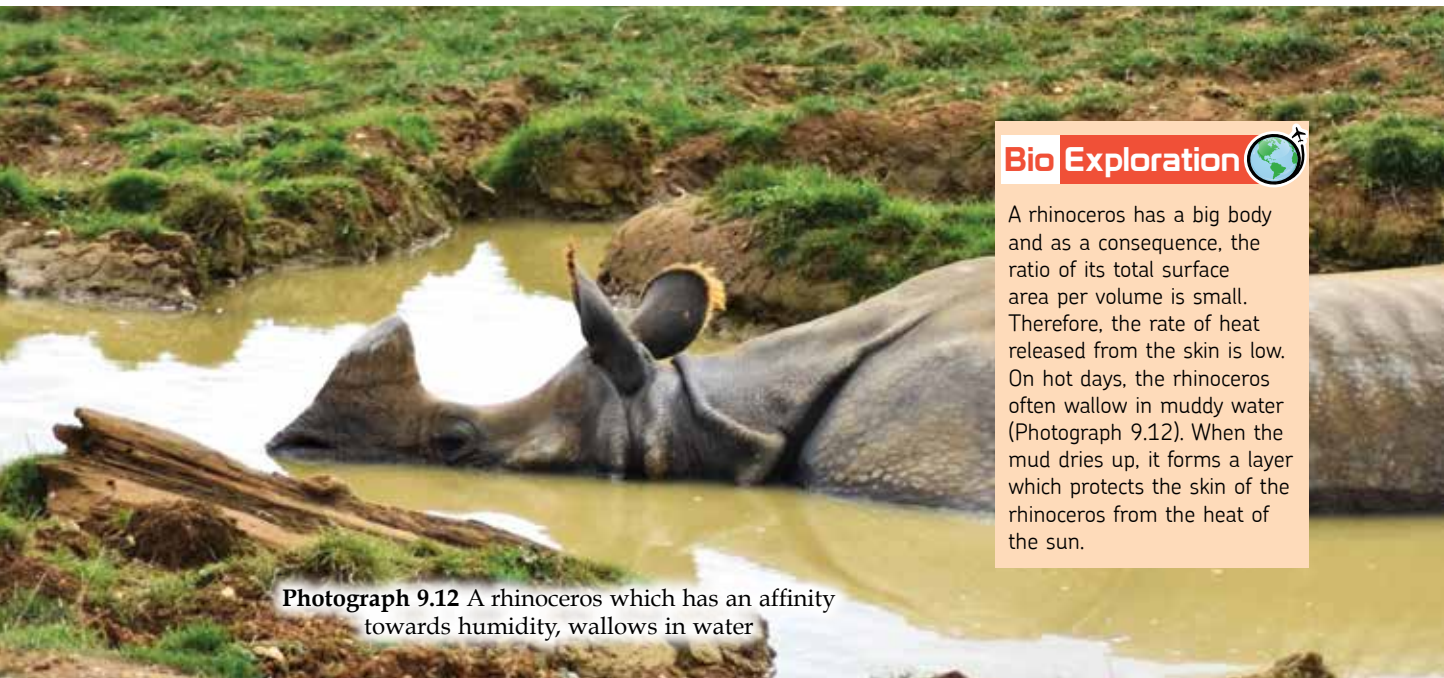


Photograph 9.11 Microclimate under a rock that has become a habitat for millipedes



## Air Humidity

- **Air humidity** is the quantity of water vapour in the air which affects the distribution of organisms in a habitat.
- There are more organisms occupying areas of high humidity than in dry areas.
- Low air humidity increases water loss in a stoma through transpiration.
- This situation enhances the absorption of water and mineral salts from the soil.
- Transpiration also provides a cooling effect, therefore plants can maintain optimum temperature for enzyme action.



**Photograph 9.12** A rhinoceros which has an affinity towards humidity, wallows in water

### Bio Exploration

A rhinoceros has a big body and as a consequence, the ratio of its total surface area per volume is small. Therefore, the rate of heat released from the skin is low. On hot days, the rhinoceros often wallow in muddy water (Photograph 9.12). When the mud dries up, it forms a layer which protects the skin of the rhinoceros from the heat of the sun.






## Autotrophic and Heterotrophic Nutrition

**Nutrition** is a way for an organism to obtain nutrients and energy from the food for its life processes (Photograph 9.13). There are two types of nutrition which are **autotrophic** and **heterotrophic**. Do you still remember about the nutrition in plants which you have learnt in Chapter 3? Table 9.1 shows the classification of organisms based on their nutritional habits.



**Photograph 9.13** Chicks gain nutrients and energy from the worms they eat

**Table 9.1** Classification of organisms according to their nutrition

Autotrophic		Heterotrophic		
Photoautotrophic	Chemoautotrophic	Saprotrophic	Holozoic	Parasitic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photoautotroph refers to an organism that synthesises complex organic compounds from carbon dioxide together with light energy.</li> <li>• Photoautotrophs synthesise their own food via the process of photosynthesis.</li> <li>• Example:</li> </ul>  <p><b>Photograph 9.14</b> Green plants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemoautotrophs include a few types of bacteria which synthesise organic compounds without using light.</li> <li>• Chemoautotrophs gain energy from the oxidation of inorganic substances such as hydrogen sulphide and ammonia through chemosynthesis.</li> <li>• Example:</li> </ul>  <p><b>Photograph 9.15</b> <i>Nitrobacter</i> sp.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saprotrophs are saprophytic organisms which gain their nutrients from dead and decaying organic substances.</li> <li>• Digestion occurs outside the body of an organism before the nutrients are absorbed into its body.</li> <li>• Example:</li> </ul>  <p><b>Photograph 9.16</b> Fungi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An organism that survives by eating solid organic substances which are then digested and absorbed into the body.</li> <li>• Most animals including human beings are holozoic.</li> <li>• Example:</li> </ul>  <p><b>Photograph 9.17</b> A squirrel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parasites are organisms that absorb nutrients from the hosts. For example, fleas and tapeworms get nutrients from their human hosts.</li> <li>• Example:</li> </ul>  <p><b>Photograph 9.18</b> A flea</p>

**TERM ANALYSIS**

- Autotroph  
*Auto* = self  
*Trophos* = eater
- Heterotroph  
*Heteros* = others  
*Trophos* = eater

**Think Smart**

Give one example of a plant that is classified as a holozoic heterotroph.

## Biotic Components According to Trophic Levels

**Biotic components** are the organisms that need energy to carry out life processes. Have you ever thought of where you get your energy from? Humans and animals gain energy by feeding on other organisms including photosynthetic plants. In fact, the main source of energy for all organisms comes from the **sun**. There are three groups in biotic components which consist of **producers**, **consumers** and **decomposers** (Figure 9.5).

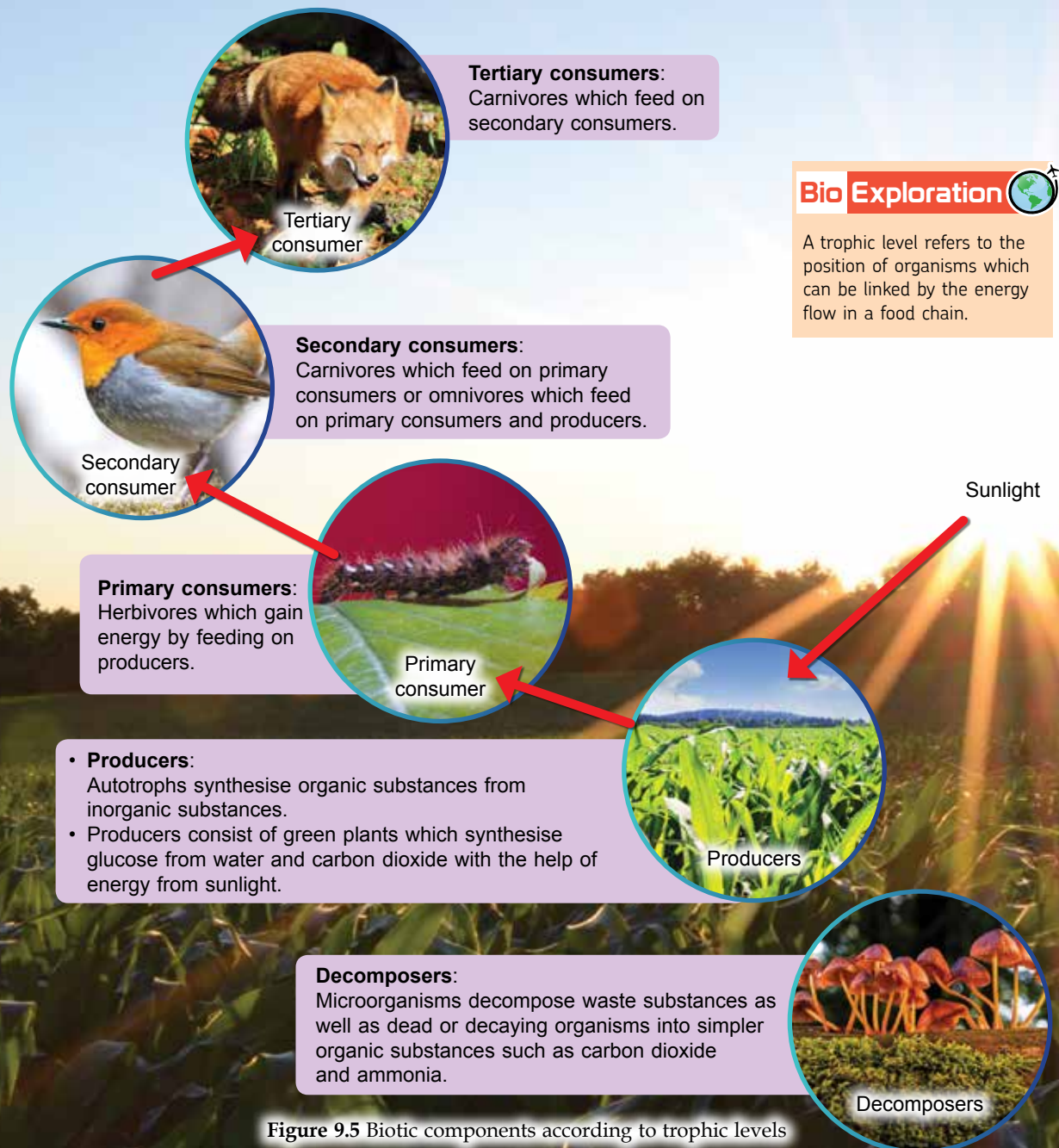


Figure 9.5 Biotic components according to trophic levels

## Energy Flow in the Food Chain

Organisms in an ecosystem interact with each other in the form of a feeding relationship which can be shown in the **food chain**. A food chain is the sequence of energy transfer from one trophic level to another trophic level, beginning with the producers.

In a food chain:

- It starts with the **producer** and ends with either a **secondary consumer** or a **tertiary consumer** (Figure 9.6).
- Organisms feed on organisms from the previous trophic level.
- Energy is transferred from the consumed organisms to the feeding organisms.
- Energy is transferred between trophic levels when an organism eats other organisms from which it gains its energy. This energy is transferred to the organism after it has digested and assimilated the food to form new substances in the body.

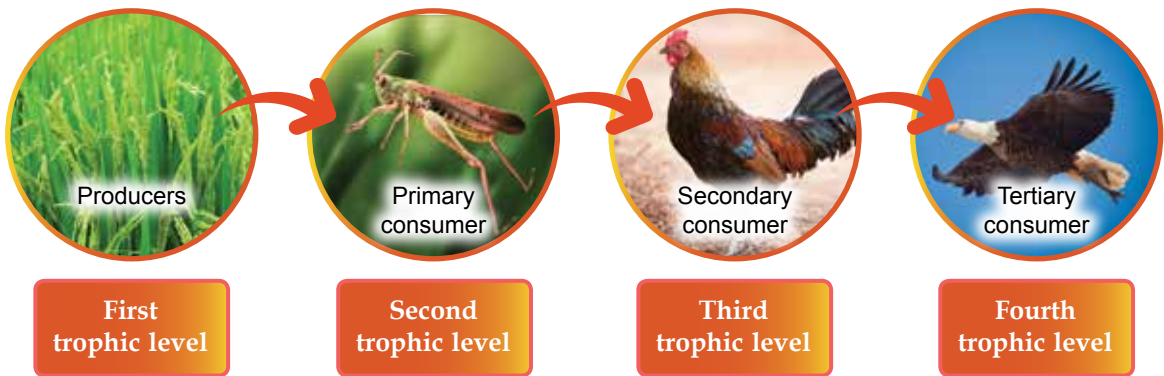


Figure 9.6 Trophic levels in the food chain

However, in natural conditions, most of the animals feed on more than one type of organisms. For example, birds eat caterpillars as well as grasshoppers and paddies. Thus, birds form a few food chains and occupy different trophic levels. A bird can be placed at the second trophic level as a primary consumer by feeding on paddy. However, the same bird can also exist at the third trophic level as a secondary consumer when feeding on grasshoppers. These are the circumstances that results in several food chains to be interconnected to form a **food web**.

In a food web:

- It shows the feeding relationships in a community.
- It consists of several food chains (Figure 9.7).
- Organisms in all food chains rely on each other in feeding aspects.
- It starts with photosynthetic producers which convert light energy from the sun into chemical energy in the form of food stored in organs such as roots, fruits, stems or leaves.

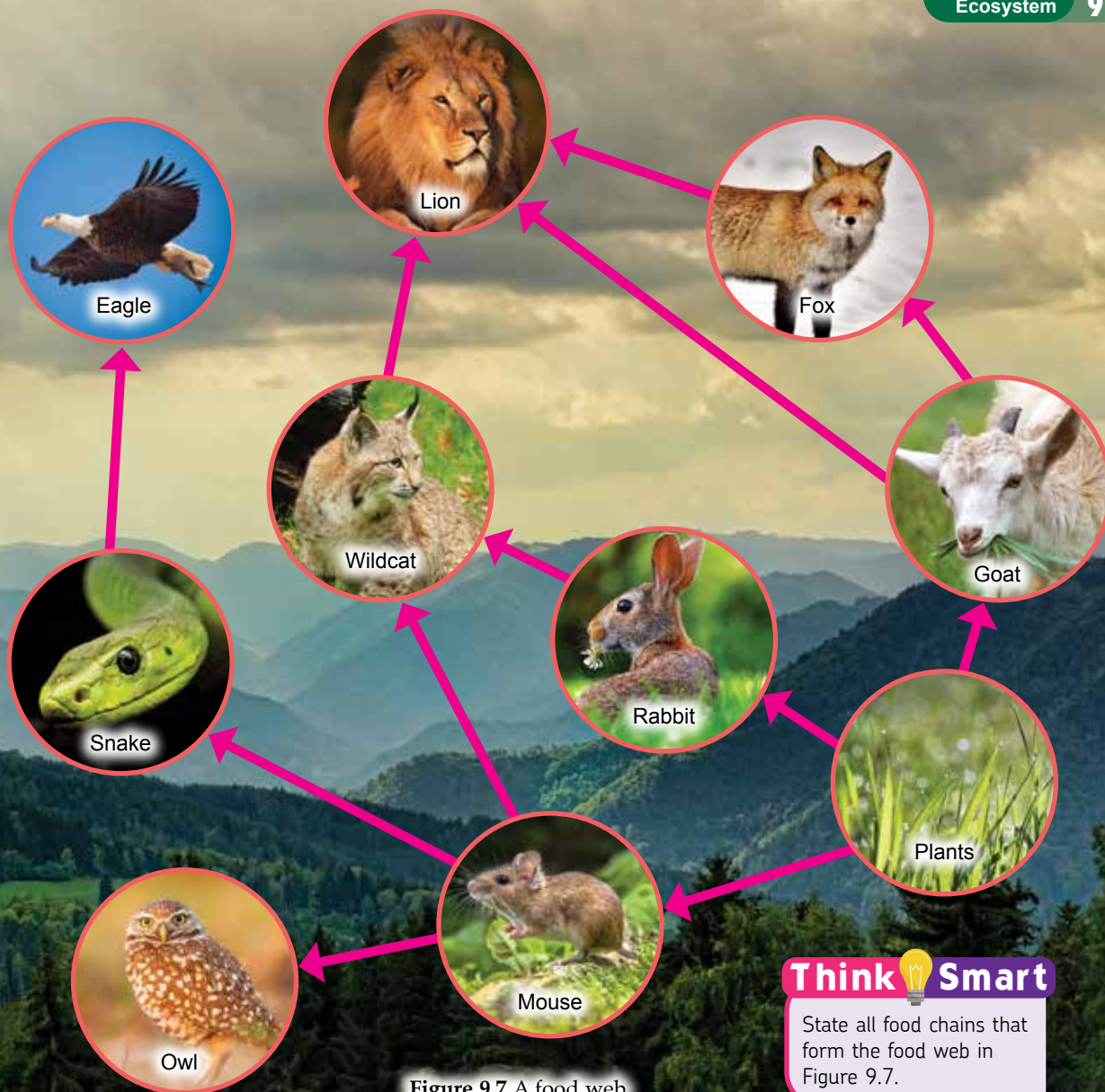


Figure 9.7 A food web

### Think Smart

State all food chains that form the food web in Figure 9.7.

## Activity 9.1



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

### Aim

To construct food chains as well as a food web for biotic components in the school field or pond

### Procedure

1. Work in pairs.
2. Identify an ecosystem in your school area.
3. List the biotic components which are present in that ecosystem.
4. Construct a few food chains to show the interactions between the organisms.
5. Combine the constructed food chains to produce a food web to show all the interactions that happen in the ecosystem.
6. Present your findings.

## Ecological Pyramids

Food chains and food webs show the feeding relationships among organisms. Energy transfer occurs when an organism feeds on another organism. In a feeding interaction, when a trophic level increases, the **number of individuals, biomass and total energy** contained in each individual for each trophic level will change. All these factors can be described in the form of **ecological pyramids** which consist of **pyramid of numbers, pyramid of biomass and pyramid of energy**.

### Pyramid of Numbers

**Pyramid of numbers** is a diagram which shows the number of organisms at every trophic level in a food chain (Figure 9.8).

- The base of the pyramid is the largest part which accommodates the **first trophic level**, representing the number of producers.
- The next tiers of the pyramid are the sections for the **second, third and fourth trophic levels** which represent the number of primary consumers, secondary consumers and tertiary consumers.
- Ascending the pyramid, the number of organisms decreases whereas the size of organisms at each level gets bigger.

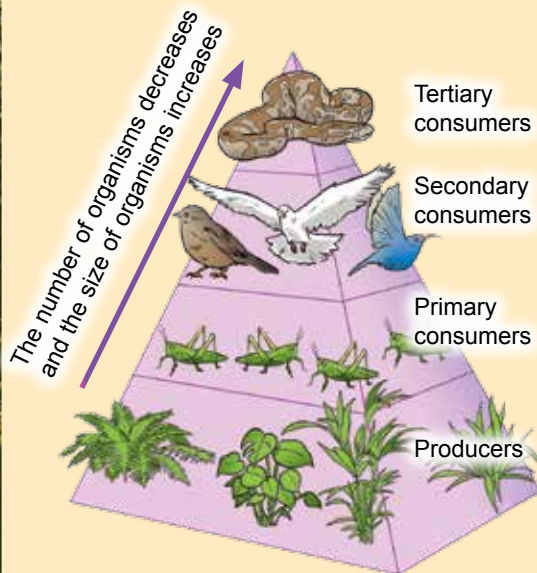


Figure 9.8 Pyramid of numbers

### Pyramid of Biomass

**Pyramid of biomass** is a diagram which shows the total biomass per unit area of all organisms in every trophic level (Figure 9.9). Biomass is measured by using dry mass.

- This pyramid shows the biomass that can be supplied to the organisms in the next trophic level.
- For example, the total biomass of producers that can be eaten by primary consumers is higher than the total biomass of primary consumers in the ecosystem.
- The total biomass of secondary consumers is lower than primary consumers.
- Ascending the pyramid, the total amount of biomass per unit area decreases.

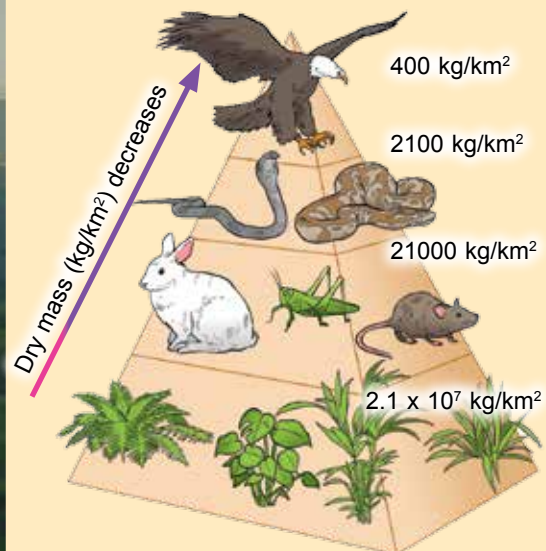
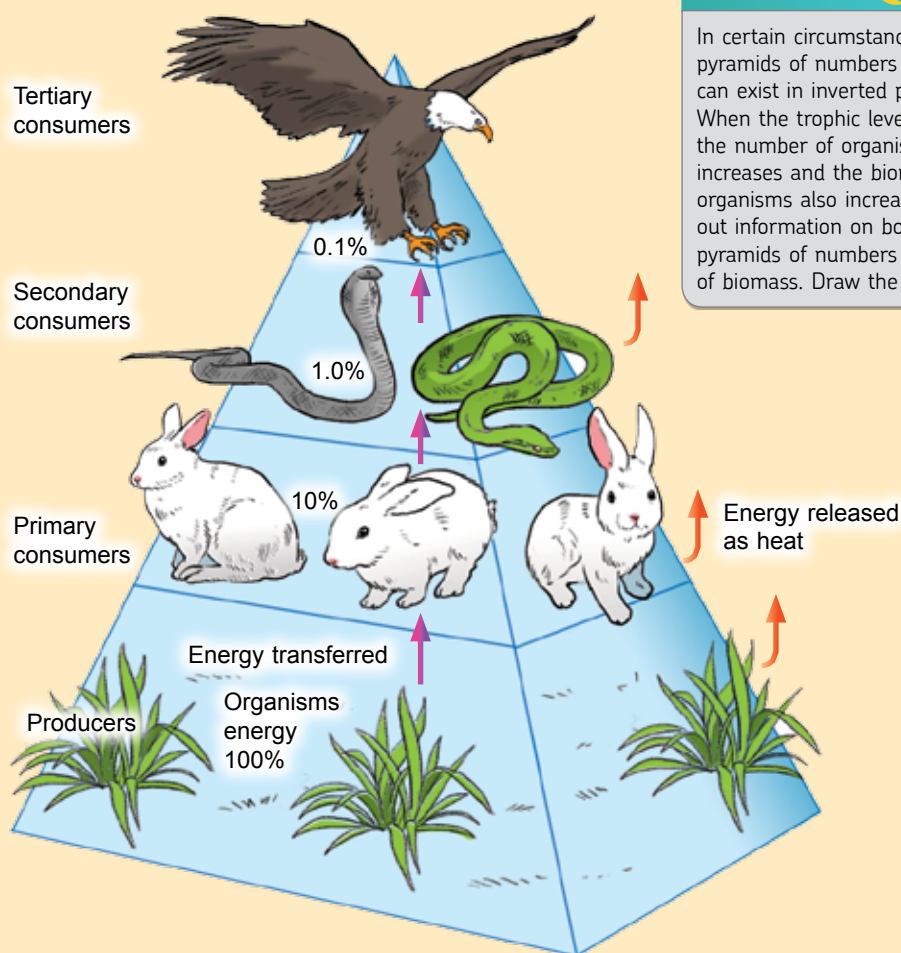


Figure 9.9 Pyramid of biomass

## Pyramid of Energy

## ACTIVITY ZONE



In certain circumstances, both pyramids of numbers and biomass can exist in inverted position. When the trophic level increases, the number of organisms increases and the biomass of organisms also increases. Find out information on both inverted pyramids of numbers and pyramid of biomass. Draw the pyramids.

Figure 9.10 Pyramid of energy

**Pyramid of energy** demonstrates the total energy which is present in an ecosystem (Figure 9.10).

- The energy source in an ecosystem is **light energy** from the sun which is absorbed by green plants to carry out photosynthesis and convert it into chemical energy.
- The energy will be transferred to the next trophic level when a primary consumer feeds on a producer.
- The energy contained inside the food molecules may be stored in the body tissues, or transferred into the environment in the form of excrement such as faeces or discharged as urine.
- When food molecules are decomposed for respiration and other reactions, some energy is released into the environment through heat. Only a small part of the energy in food is converted into energy stored in body tissues as a supplement to the organism's biomass.
- Only 10% of the energy is transferred to the next trophic level.
- 90% of the energy is dissipated into the environment through heat, living processes and excretion.
- Hence, organisms that belong to lower trophic levels have greater energy if compared to organisms at higher trophic levels.

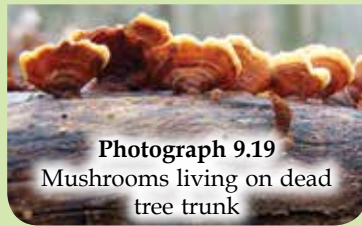
## Types of Interaction among Biotic Components

As humans, we live in a community. Every member in that community needs one another. It is similar for animals and plants which interact with each other in an ecosystem in various ways. There are a few types of main interactions, which are **saprophytism**, **symbiosis**, **predation** and **competition** (Figure 9.11). There are two types of competitions, which are **intraspecific competition** and **interspecific competition**. Intraspecific competition happens among organisms of the same species. Interspecific competition happens among organisms of different species.

### Saprophytism

Saprophytism is an interaction in which an organism gets its food from dead organic materials.

- For example, mushrooms that live on dead tree trunk.



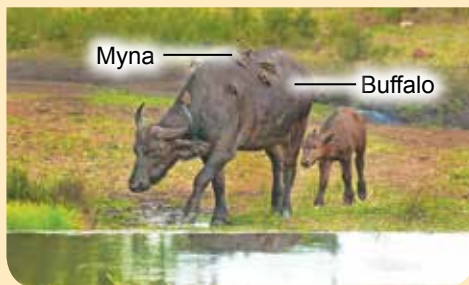
**Photograph 9.19**  
Mushrooms living on dead tree trunk

### Symbiosis

Symbiosis occurs when different species that live together, interact with each other.

### Mutualism

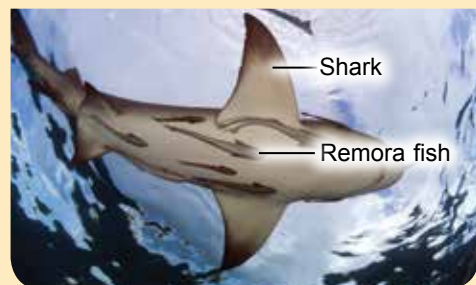
- Mutualism is an interaction that gives benefits to both organisms.
- For example, a myna gets its food (lice) from the body of a buffalo whereas the buffalo is free from the lice.



**Photograph 9.20**  
Mynas and buffaloes

### Commensalism

- Commensalism is an interaction that provides benefits to only one organism without causing any harm to the other organism.
- For example, a shark does not gain any benefit but the remora fish gets scraps of the shark's food.



**Photograph 9.21**  
A shark and remora fish

**Figure 9.11** Interaction among biotic components



## Interaction among Biotic Components

## Predation

It is an interaction involving an organism (predator) that eats another organism (prey).

- For example, an owl which is a predator catches and eats rats as its prey.



**Photograph 9.23**  
An owl and a rat

## Competition

Competition occurs when organisms in a habitat compete in order to get basic needs such as food, water, light and mates.

## Interspecific competition

- For example, competition among different species of plants to get sunlight.



**Photograph 9.24**  
Interspecific competition

## Intraspecific competition

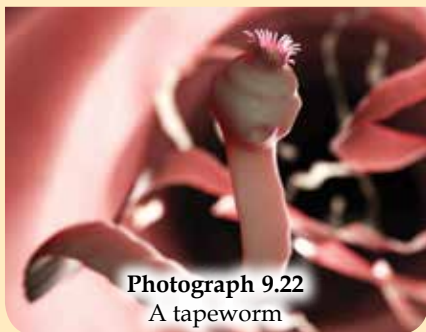
- For example, competition among animals of the same species to get mates.



**Photograph 9.25**  
Intraspecific competition

## Parasitism

- Parasitism is an interaction that benefits one organism but harms the other organism.
- For example, a tapeworm becomes a parasite in the intestines of a human being by absorbing nutrients and causes the human (host) to lack in nutrients.



**Photograph 9.22**  
A tapeworm

## ICT



**Video**

**Interaction between Organisms**

[http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/Interaction BetweenOrganisms.mp4](http://bukutekskssm.my/Biology/F5/Interaction%20BetweenOrganisms.mp4)

## Think Smart

List a few other examples of mutualism, commensalism and parasitism that you have learnt in Form Two.

**Problem statement**

What are the effects of intraspecific and interspecific competitions among organisms?

**Aim**

To study the effects of intraspecific and interspecific competitions among organisms

**Hypothesis**

If the competition among organisms is high, the growth of organisms becomes slow.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** Types of seeds

**Responding variable:** Height of seedlings

**Constant variable:** Amount and type of soil, amount of water sprinkled, fertilisers, light intensity

**Materials**

Fertilised soil, 120 corn seeds, 120 paddy seeds

**Apparatus**

Three plastic trays with the measurements of 50 cm × 40 cm × 10 cm, a ruler, a mini shovel

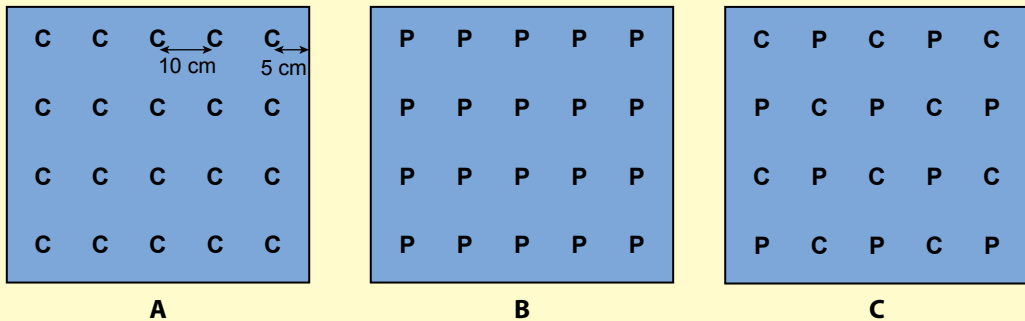
**Procedure**

Figure 9.12

1. Label all plastic trays as A, B and C (Figure 9.12).
2. Randomly choose 30 corn seeds (C) and 30 paddy seeds (P).
3. Sow:
  - (a) 20 corn seeds in tray A
  - (b) 20 paddy seeds in tray B
  - (c) 10 corn seeds and 10 paddy seeds in tray C
4. Ensure the distance between each seed is 10 cm whereas the distance between the seeds and the edge of the tray is 5 cm.
5. Put all the trays in a shady place.
6. Water every tray with the same amount of water.
7. After a month, randomly select:
  - (a) 10 corn seedlings from tray A
  - (b) 10 paddy seedlings from tray B
  - (c) 5 corn seedlings and 5 paddy seedlings from tray C.
8. Measure and record the height of every seedling and their average into a table.
9. Based on the table, plot a bar graph using the height of the seedlings in centimetres.

**Results**

Type of seeds/ Trays	Height of seedlings (cm)											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Average	
Corn / Tray A												
Paddy / Tray B												
Corn / Tray C												
Paddy / Tray C												

**Discussion**

1. Name the type of competition that has taken place in trays A, B and C.
2. What are the sources that cause the competition in trays A, B and C?
3. Which species is more adaptive in the competition in tray C? Explain.
4. Compare the heights of:
  - (a) Corn seedlings in trays A and C.
  - (b) Paddy seedlings in trays B and C. Explain your answer.

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**Mangrove Ecosystem****Abiotic Components**

Mangrove trees are tropical plants which are usually found in estuaries. Estuaries is a place where the sea and river meets. These plants have successfully adapted themselves to the extreme abiotic components (Figure 9.13).

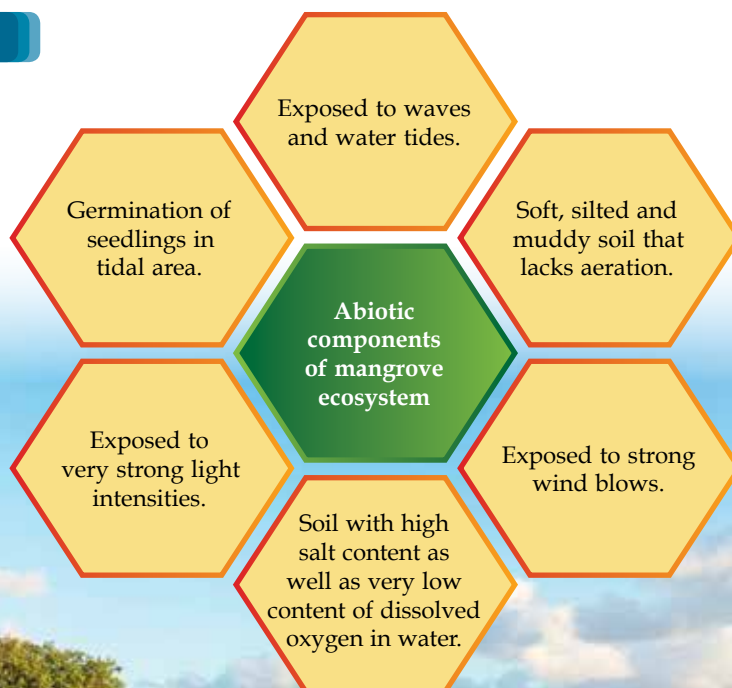


Figure 9.13 Abiotic components of a mangrove ecosystem

## Biotic Components

Other than the mangrove plants as producers that dominate the ecosystem, many other species of flora and fauna adapt themselves to live in the mangrove forest (Photograph 9.26). In addition, there are also decomposers such as bacteria and fungi which decompose dead organisms into nutrients for the plants. These organisms form a food web that helps to maintain the dynamic balance of the mangrove forest.

### Think Smart

Can you list down other biotic components of mangroves?



### Bio Exploration








A firefly is an insect which can be found in a mangrove forest. The mangrove area in Kampung Kuantan, Kuala Selangor is famous for its fireflies, *Pteroptyx tener*.

Photograph 9.26 Biotic components of a mangrove ecosystem

## Adaptation Features of the Mangrove Trees

Mangrove trees have special features for survival of the species in an inapt environment. Table 9.2 shows the adaptation features of mangrove trees in dealing with the surrounding conditions.

**Table 9.2** Features of mangrove trees to adapt in the surrounding conditions

Parts of mangrove trees	Adaptation features
Leaves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mangrove leaves have thick cuticles and sunken stomata which can reduce the rate of transpiration.</li> <li>• These leaves have succulent leaves that can store water and special structure known as <b>hydathode</b> to eliminate excess salt.</li> <li>• Mature leaves can store salt, which will fall off when the concentration of salt stored is too high.</li> </ul> <p><b>Photograph 9.27</b> A leaf of a mangrove tree</p> 
Pneumatophore roots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pneumatophore roots</b> are short root projections from the soil surface for aeration in water-submerged areas.</li> <li>• The root allows the gas exchange between the submerged root and atmosphere through lenticels.</li> <li>• Example: <i>Avicennia</i> sp.</li> </ul> <p><b>Photograph 9.28</b> A pneumatophore root</p> 
Prop roots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prop roots</b> branch out from the lower part of the stem of a mangrove tree.</li> <li>• The roots are firmly planted in the soil to support the tree to overcome strong winds and waves.</li> <li>• Example: <i>Rhizophora</i> sp.</li> </ul> <p><b>Photograph 9.29</b> Prop roots</p> 
Buttress roots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Buttress roots</b> are a type of roots with a thick structure that can add in widening the base of a tree.</li> <li>• The roots provide support to the tree that grows on soft soil which borders with solid land.</li> <li>• Example: <i>Bruguiera</i> sp.</li> </ul> <p><b>Photograph 9.30</b> Buttress roots</p> 
Seeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viviparous seeds germinate and grow when they are still on the parent plant.</li> <li>• This feature enables fallen seedlings to stick into the muddy soil and will not be uprooted by waves.</li> </ul> <p><b>Photograph 9.31</b> Viviparous seedlings</p> 

## Colonisation and Succession

An ecosystem can change due to natural phenomena such as a volcano eruption, earthquakes, draughts and human activities. Human activities, such as mining can cause organisms to die or migrate to other habitats. However, after a long period of time, this deserted area starts to have inhabitants known as **pioneer species**, a species that begins to colonise an area where there are no other living things (Figure 9.14).

### COLONISATION

Plants start to conquer an uninhabited area, breed and form colonies in that area.

### SUCCESSION

A few species of dominant plants in a habitat are gradually being replaced by other species called successor.

#### Coastal zone

- **Coastal zone** is the area that is most exposed to big waves.
- This zone is dominated by **pioneer species**, which are *Avicennia* sp. (*Api-api* tree) and *Sonneratia* sp. (mangrove apple)
- An enlarged root system and pneumatophores help the trees to trap mud and organic substances which are brought by high tides.
- Mud accumulation slowly begins and as a result, the soil becomes higher and denser.
- *Rhizophora* sp. succeeds and replaces the pioneer species.

#### Middle zone

- **Middle zone** is situated along the river, closer to the estuaries.
- An area inhabited by *Rhizophora* sp. plants (*bakau minyak* tree) that have tangled prop roots. These roots can trap twigs and mud which are washed away and block the flow of water.
- The trapped mud causes sedimentation to occur much faster.
- The river bank becomes higher and drier because less seawater overflows during high tides.
- The soil becomes less suitable for the growth of *Rhizophora* sp. Instead it is more suitable for *Bruguiera* sp.
- *Bruguiera* sp. succeeds and replaces *Rhizophora* sp.

#### Inland zone

- **Inland zone** is situated further into the land.
- The soil becomes higher, harder and only flows with seawater during high tides.
- The area is inhabited by *Bruguiera* sp. (*tumu merah* tree) which have buttress roots to trap more mud and silt.
- Sedimentation process forms a new swamp that projects out towards the sea.
- The one-time shore gets further away from the sea and the ground changes into a land which is suitable for land trees such as *Nypa fruticans* and *Pandanus* sp.
- The land trees succeed and replace *Bruguiera* sp.

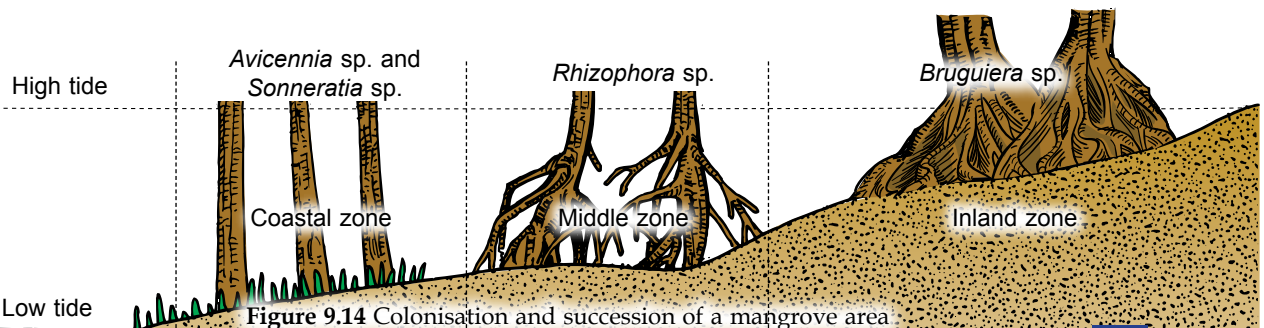


Figure 9.14 Colonisation and succession of a mangrove area

9.1.8

## The Importance of the Mangrove Ecosystem

### PROTECTION ZONE

- Mangrove forests become a **natural barrier** to lessen the impact of strong waves and wind that reach the seashore area.
- Mangrove forests offer a **protected site** for small fish, shrimps and crabs from predators as well as swift movements of currents and waves.
- Mangrove forests can become preserved areas where various species of migratory birds can search for food.

### FISHERY RESOURCES

- Sea products such as fish, shrimps, crabs and sea snails become a **source of income** for fishermen living near the mangrove areas.
- The wetlands in mangrove areas are conducive for **fish rearing in floating cages** and also for breeding commercial species.

### FORESTRY RESOURCES

- Mangrove woods can be used to build **boats, fish traps** and **building frames**.
- Mangrove woods can also be used to make **handicrafts**.
- Mangrove wood is burnt in the furnace to produce a type of fuel called **charcoal**.

### FOOD AND MEDICINE RESOURCES

- The fruit of *Avicennia* sp. can be consumed as a vegetable. The nut can be boiled and eaten whereas its flower produces honey.
- The fruit of *Sonneratia* sp. is used in the production of drinks.
- The fruit of *Nypa* sp. can be eaten and water from the fruit can be used in the production of vinegar and *nira*.
- The bark of *Bruguiera* sp. tree can be used to treat diarrhoea.

Figure 9.15 The importance of a mangrove ecosystem

## Activity 9.2



### Aim

To study and carry out a presentation on the importance of the mangrove ecosystem

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Carry out a field study in a mangrove ecosystem. Study:
  - (a) The charcoal industry
  - (b) A village industry such as *nipah* roofs or palm sugar productions
  - (c) The activities available at mangrove swamps such as harvesting cockles, shrimps and crabs
3. Present the findings of your group in the form of multimedia presentation.

# Formative Practice

9.1

1. Give the definitions of each of the following:
  - (a) Species
  - (b) Population
  - (c) Community
2. In an ecosystem, biotic components interact with each other as well as with other surrounding factors. Give **one** example of an interaction that occurs in a grass field.
3. Explain how an aspect can affect the distribution of organisms in an ecosystem.
4. The pyramid of numbers shows the relationship between trophic levels with number, size of organisms and also the value of transferred energy. Explain each relationship between:
  - (a) Trophic levels and the number of organisms
  - (b) Trophic levels and the total number of biomass per unit area
  - (c) Trophic levels and the energy values
5. State the importance of mangrove from the aspects of:
  - (a) Security
  - (b) Source of income
  - (c) Tourism
  - (d) Education

## 9.2 Population Ecology

**P**opulation ecology is a branch of ecology which studies the interactions of a population with its surroundings. As learnt in Subtopic 9.1, a population is a group of organisms of the same species living in the same habitat. Population distribution shows how the organisms of the same species are able to spread out in a habitat. What are the factors affecting the population distribution?

### Factors Affecting Population Distribution

Population distribution is affected by abiotic factors as shown in Table 9.3.

**Table 9.3** Factors affecting population distribution of plants and animals

Factors	The effects towards plants
Temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The optimum temperature for plant growth is between <b>25 °C to 30 °C</b>.</li><li>• High temperatures can cause enzymes to denature. Biochemical processes in plants are disrupted and they:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ stunt the growth of plants.</li><li>➢ increase the rate of water evaporation by transpiration.</li><li>➢ slow the rate of photosynthesis.</li></ul></li><li>• Low temperatures reduce the activities of enzymes which slow down the biochemical reactions.</li></ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water is needed for enzyme activities, photosynthesis, transport and support in herbaceous plants.</li><li>• Dry regions such as a desert and tundra areas such as at the poles have low population distribution and also low density of plants.</li></ul>

9.2.1



Light	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light is very important for the process of photosynthesis in plants.</li> <li>• Areas which receive little light have a lower number of plants.</li> </ul>
pH of soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pH of soil is important for nutrient absorption by the roots.</li> <li>• Soil in which the pH is either too acidic or too alkaline will cause lower absorption of nutrients by plants.</li> <li>• The growth of plants will be disrupted due to lack of nutrients.</li> </ul>
Mineral salt content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salt content affects the absorption of water through osmosis by the roots.</li> <li>• High salt content in soil will cause plants to lose water through osmosis.</li> <li>• Minerals are needed for the production of proteins, enzymes, nucleotides, vitamins and others compounds.</li> <li>• As an example, phosphorus is used to form phospholipids (in the formation of cell membrane).</li> </ul>
<b>Factors</b>	<b>The effects towards animals</b>
Temperature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas which are exposed to high temperatures in a habitat are less inhabited by certain animals such as worms and snails.</li> </ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals are concentrated in areas that have enough water sources for drinking and cooling the body.</li> </ul>
Breeding site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A safe and suitable breeding site is needed by animals to raise their offsprings.</li> </ul>
Food supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food is important for survival because animals are heterotrophs which depend on plants and other animals for food.</li> </ul>

There are three patterns of population distribution which are **clumped**, **random** and **uniform** (Figure 9.16).

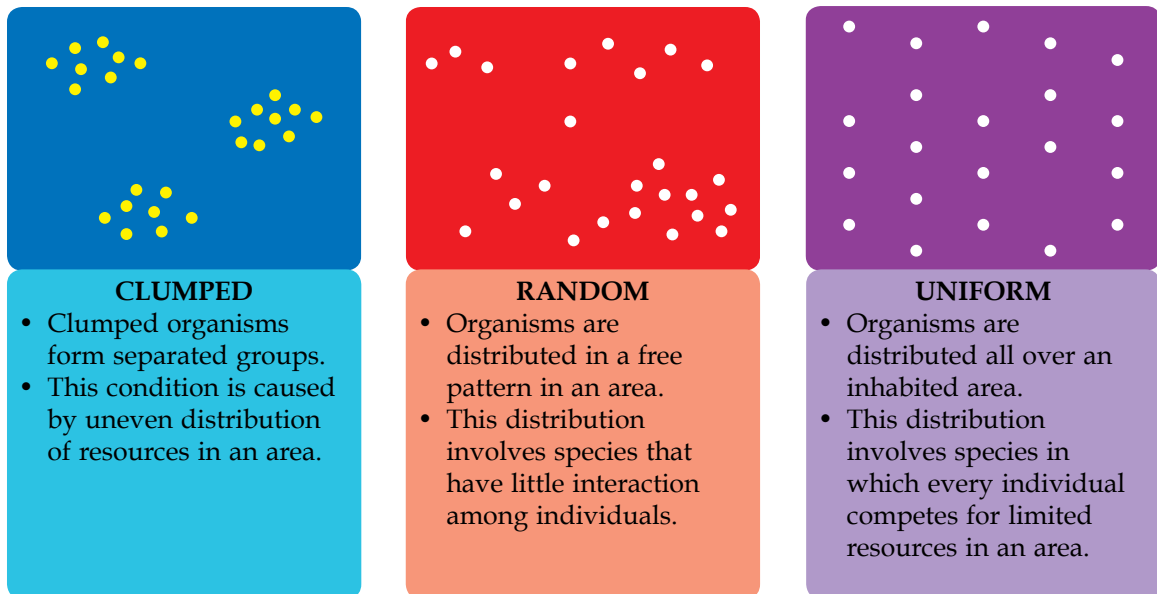


Figure 9.16 Patterns for population distribution

## Estimation of Organism Population Size

Two important factors for studying population ecology are **population size** and **population density**.

**Population size:** The number of organisms present in a population.

**Population density:** The number of individuals of a species per unit area of a habitat.

The population size in an area can be estimated by a random sampling technique when the studied area is large and difficult to obtain data. A sample which represents the area is taken to give an estimation of the abundance and the distribution pattern of certain organisms that inhabit the area.

### Quadrat Sampling Technique

A **quadrat sampling technique** can estimate the population size of land plants or animals which are **inactive** or move slowly (Photograph 9.32). The number of organisms in the quadrat areas is the sample which represents the whole area of study. The data obtained from all quadrats can be used to estimate the population in the area of study.

A **quadrat** is a square-framed structure which is made of wood, iron or plastic (Figure 9.17). Normally, a quadrat is subdivided into a few parts of the same size to estimate the coverage percentage of any species. The size of the quadrat depends on the types and size of organisms, the area of study as well as the distribution and density of the plants being studied. For example, a one-metre-squared quadrat is suitable to estimate the population of plants in a school field.

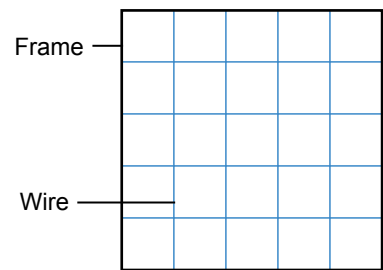


Figure 9.17 A quadrat

### Think Smart

Which technique is more accurate than a quadrat sampling technique in determining the distribution of plants in a field? Explain.



Photograph 9.32 Quadrat sampling technique

### Bio Exploration

During quadrat sampling, you should place a quadrat randomly and not based on an area with the most plants being studied can be found.

Quadrat sampling technique can estimate the **frequency**, **density** and **coverage** of any plant species which is being studied in the area of study.

- **Frequency** is the probability to get an individual of any plant species in every quadrat.

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{\text{The number of quadrats containing studied species}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used}} \times 100\%$$

- **Density** is the average number of individuals in any species per unit area of study.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Total number of individual species studied in all quadrats}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used} \times \text{Area of a quadrat}}$$

- Coverage is the surface area of the soil which is covered by the shoots of the plant species. The **coverage percentage** is the percentage of soil surface covered by the plants.

$$\text{Coverage percentage} = \frac{\text{Area covered by studied species in all quadrats}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used} \times \text{Area of a quadrat}} \times 100\%$$

## Activity 9.3



### Aim

To carry out a field study to estimate the population size of plants in the school field

### Apparatus

A quadrat measuring 1 m × 1 m, a pen, a note book

### Procedure

1. Identify a plant species X present in the school field.
2. A quadrat measuring 1 m × 1 m is randomly placed in a part of the school field.
3. Calculate the number of species X in the quadrat.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 at nine other sites of the field, randomly selected, also for the same plant species.
5. Record the results in a table.
6. Calculate the frequency, density and the coverage percentage of sample species X.

### Observations

Plant species	Quadrat										Total number of species	Density of species (m <sup>2</sup> )	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
X													

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Total number of species individual studied in all quadrats}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used} \times \text{Area of a quadrat}}$$

Plant species	Quadrat										Area covered by species	Coverage percentage %	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
X													

$$\text{Coverage percentage} = \frac{\text{Area covered by studied species in all quadrats}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used} \times \text{Area of a quadrat}} \times 100\%$$

### Discussion

1. State the pattern of species distribution that you have studied. Justify your answer.
2. State the surrounding factors which affect the pattern of population distribution of the species that you have studied.
3. What is the frequency, density and coverage percentage of the species in the school field?

### Conclusion

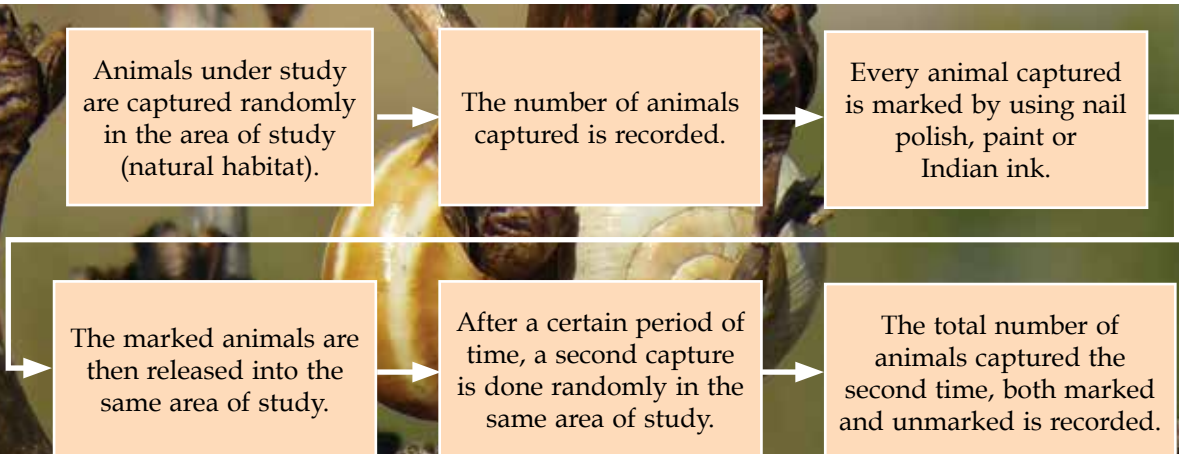
Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

## Capture-Mark-Release-Recapture Technique

Capture-mark-release-recapture technique can estimate the population size of organisms such as foxes, sharks, snails, millipedes, insects and butterflies which can move freely in the studied area. This technique involves a number of steps such as in Figure 9.18.



**Photograph 9.33** Snails which have been marked



**Figure 9.18** The steps for capture-mark-release-recapture technique

## Activity 9.4



### Aim

To carry out a field study to estimate the population size of animals

### Apparatus

Paint brush, Indian ink or nail polish, a pen, papers

### Procedure

1. Choose a suitable area in the school compound where you can carry out a study.
2. Identify the type of animals which is abundant in that area to become a sample.
3. Capture five samples of the chosen organism (P) in the study area.
4. Mark all the captured organisms.
5. Release all the marked (P) organisms in the same area where they have been captured.
6. After a few days, recapture another five samples of organisms (Q) in the same area.
7. Record the total of marked samples in the second capture (R).
8. Estimate the population size of the organisms by using the formula:

$$\text{Population size} = \frac{P \times Q}{R}$$

### Keys:

P : The number of animals in the first capture

Q : The number of animals in the second capture

R : The number of marked animals in the second capture

### Discussion

1. What is the substance that you used to mark the captured animals? Justify the substance that you have chosen.
2. State the interactions that have happened between the studied organisms with both biotic and abiotic components in that area.
3. State the basic needs that enable the studied organisms to inhabit the area.

## Activity 9.5



*Pleurococcus* sp. is a type of green algae growing on areas that are protected from the scorching sunlight to form a slimy layer on places such as tree barks, stones and moist soil. This algae can reproduce very fast through vegetative cell division by binary fission. *Pleurococcus* sp. is a sphere-shaped unicellular organism which can exist individually or in groups. It has thick cell walls to prevent excessive water loss. Every cell is abundant with chloroplasts for photosynthesis.

### Aim

To carry out a field study to observe the effects of abiotic components on the population of an organism

### Apparatus

Five quadrats (10 cm × 10 cm) which are made from transparent plastic, a marker pen, a roll of string and a metre ruler

### Procedure

1. Choose a tree which has an uneven growth of *Pleurococcus* sp. at the lower part of the tree trunk.
2. Identify the side of the tree which receives the most sunlight.
3. Tie a string around the tree trunk at an estimated distance of one metre from the ground.
4. Draw grids measuring 1 cm × 1 cm on each of the transparent quadrats.
5. Put the quadrats at the lower part of the string at different aspects, P, Q, R, S and T as seen in Figure 9.19.
6. By using a marker pen, shade all parts where the growth of *Pleurococcus* sp. can be seen in the transparent quadrats.
7. Count the number of squares which contain *Pleurococcus* sp. in the quadrats. (Note: Only count squares which are half-covered or more than half-covered)
8. The coverage percentage for all quadrats is estimated by using the formula:

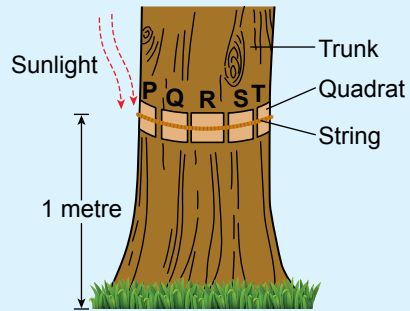


Figure 9.19 The arrangement of quadrats on the tree trunk

$$\text{Coverage percentage (\%)} = \frac{\text{Area covered by } \textit{Pleurococcus} \text{ sp. in five quadrats (cm}^2\text{)}}{\text{Total number of quadrats used (5) } \times \text{Area of a quadrat (100 cm}^2\text{)}} \times 100\%$$

### Discussion

1. Which quadrat receives sunlight
  - (a) the most?
  - (b) the least?
2. Which quadrat has the coverage percentage of *Pleurococcus* sp. that is
  - (a) the highest?
  - (b) the lowest?
3. Explain the influence of sunlight towards the growth of *Pleurococcus* sp.

## Formative Practice

9.2

1. An ecosystem has a population size, population density and population distribution.
  - (a) What is the difference between population size and population distribution?
  - (b) State the factors that can affect population distribution.
  - (c) State the patterns of the population distribution. Explain.

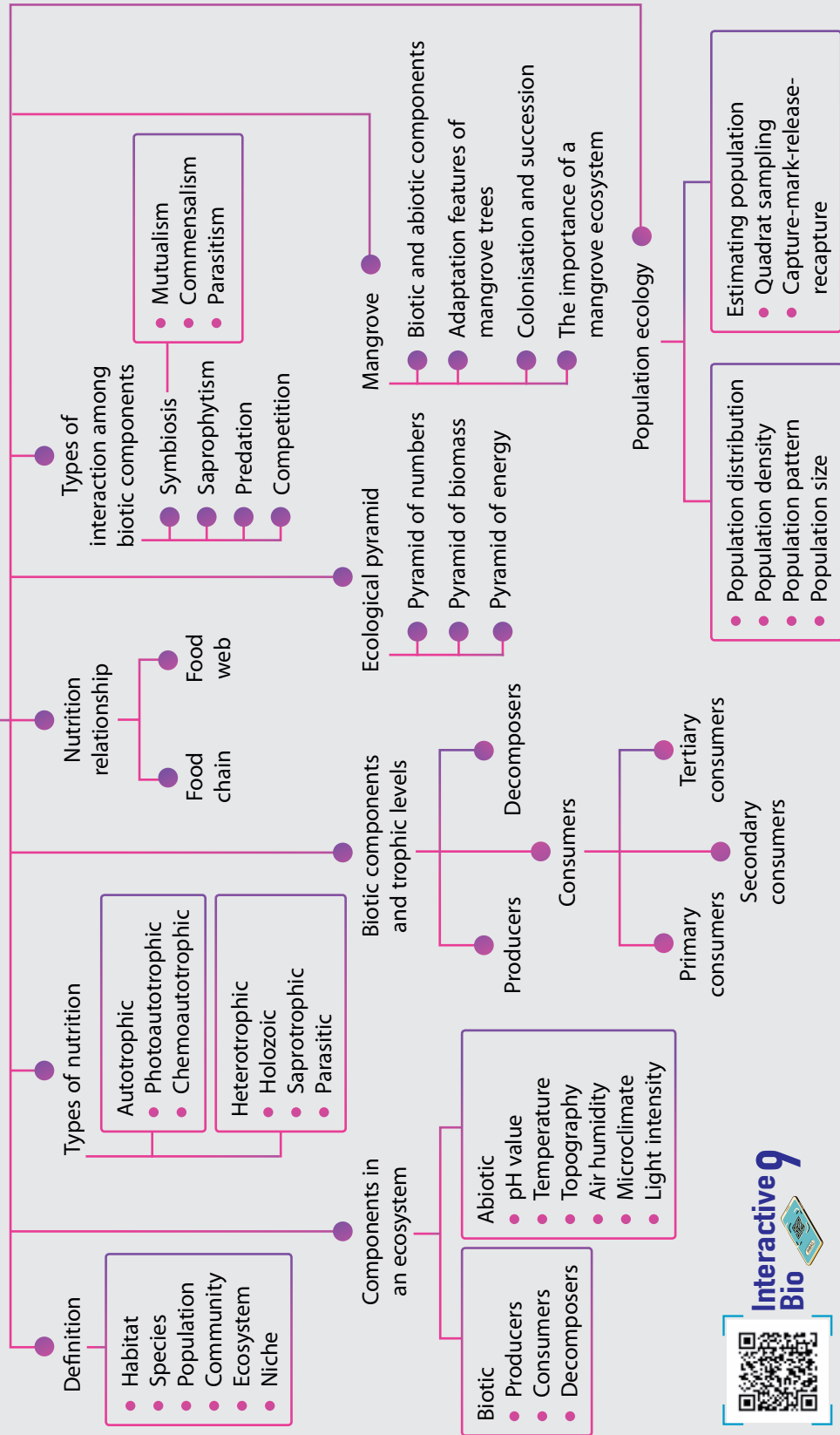


2. Quadrat sampling can be used to find the coverage percentage of plants in the school field. You are supplied with a quadrat which consists of a square-shaped wood frame. According to your biology teacher, the quadrat needs to be modified to obtain a more accurate estimation. Explain.

# Memory Flashback



## ECOSYSTEM



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.

Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Definition of species, population, community, habitat, niche and ecosystem		
Biotic components and abiotic components in an ecosystem		
Autotroph nutrition and heterotroph nutrition		
Biotic components according to trophic levels		
Pyramid of numbers, pyramid of biomass and pyramid of energy		
The different types of interactions among biotic components, which are parasitism, commensalism, mutualism, saprophytism, competition and predation		
Mangrove ecosystem from the aspects of biotic components, abiotic components, adaptations of mangrove trees, colonisation and succession, the importance of a mangrove ecosystem		
Factors affecting population distribution		
Quadrat sampling technique and capture-mark-release-recapture technique		

## Summative Practice

9



1. Figure 1 shows changes of plant sequence in a mangrove area.

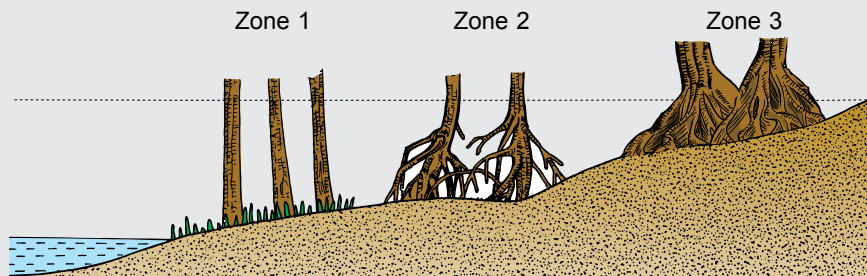


Figure 1

- Name the plants in each of the zones: 1, 2 and 3.
- Name the process that causes plants in Zone 1 to distribute to a new habitat.
  - Name the process that causes plants in Zone 1 to be replaced by plants in Zone 2.
- The plants in Zone 2 are cut down to build a fish breeding pond. Explain how this activity affects the mangrove ecosystem.





2. Figure 2 shows a situation in a grassland.

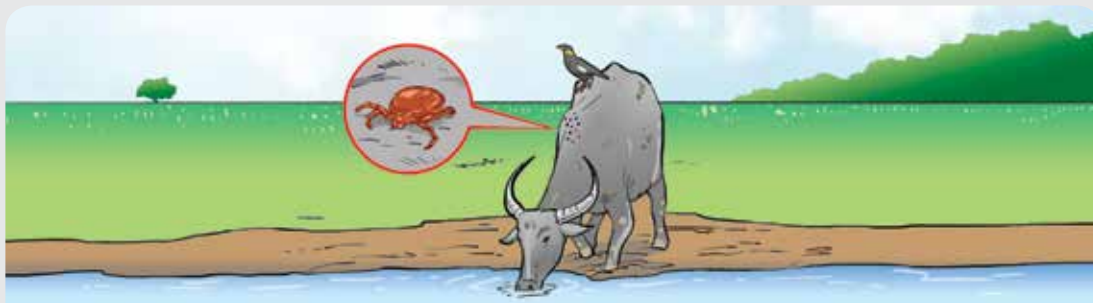


Figure 2

There are more than one interactions that occur in the above situation. What are those interactions? Explain each interaction.



3. A study has been carried out to estimate the population size of fish in a pond. The steps of the study are as below:

- Fish are captured, marked and released back into the pond.
- After a week, fish are recaptured and counted.
- The number of marked fish is recorded.

- (a) What is the most suitable substance to be used as a marker?  
 (b) State the formula to estimate the population size of the fish.  
 (c) The accuracy of this technique is dependent on assumptions. Give **two** assumptions about the fish population.



4. Assume that you are an operational officer in a company which produces charcoal using mangrove trees. The management of the company that you are working for wants to establish another factory. You have been asked to suggest an area to build the factory. Draw an area plan and list the advantages of the selected location.



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

5. Mrs. Haniza is an ecology lecturer. She wants to take her students to do a field study in a mangrove forest. The purpose of the field study is to study the aeration and support systems of mangrove trees growing in the muddy and silted beach area. She estimates that they will take two days to complete the field study. However, Mrs Roziana who is another lecturer in ecology has estimated that the field research can be done within one day.

(a) In your opinion, whose estimation is more appropriate?



(b) Suggest suitable activities that can be done during the field study.



Chapter

# 10

# Environmental Sustainability

Chapter

Exploration

- Threats to the Environment
- Preservation, Conservation and Restoration of Ecosystem
- Practices in Environmental Sustainability
- Green Technology



Learning Standards



Do You

Know?

- What is the meaning of environmental sustainability?
- How does environmental pollution affect the ecosystem?
- What do you understand about sustainability development?
- Why is food security very important?
- How will the application of green technology sustain the environment?

## Biological Control Agent to Sustain the Environment

**B**iological control agent is a technology based on ecological concepts that control pest attack on highland vegetables such as cabbages, lettuces and tomatoes. *Diadegma semiclausum* (parasitic wasp), *Cotesia vestalis* (parasitic wasp) and *Coenosia exigua* (tiger fly) are some examples of biological control agents which have been proven to be effective in controlling the attacks of pests.

This technology is a strategy introduced by both Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) and the Department of Agriculture to safeguard the quality and security of food for the country as well as to reduce environmental pollution. These biological control agents are not only safe for consumers but also beneficial towards conserving the stability of the ecosystem.



### Keywords



- ◆ Biodiversity
- ◆ Eutrophication
- ◆ Acid rain
- ◆ Environmental sustainability
- ◆ Greenhouse effect
- ◆ Biochemical oxygen demand
- ◆ Global warming
- ◆ *Ex situ* conservation
- ◆ *In situ* conservation
- ◆ Noise pollution
- ◆ Thermal pollution
- ◆ Thinning of the ozone layer
- ◆ Air pollution
- ◆ Deforestation
- ◆ Food security
- ◆ Green technology

# 10.1 Threats to the Environment

## Definition of Environmental Sustainability

**Environmental sustainability** means an environmental condition that remains the same without any reduction or depletion of natural resources, with an assured quality of the surrounding environment, for a long period of time.

### Bio & Application

Every colour of the bins (Figure 10.1) represents different substances that can be recycled.



Figure 10.1  
Recycle bins

Colour of the bins	Uses
Blue	Paper
Brown	Glass
Orange	Metal and plastic

**E**nvironmental sustainability ensures the demands of current needs are met without affecting the needs of future generations. The good quality of the environment will be disturbed when its sustainability is neglected. The increase in human population has caused a conflict between the need to meet the demands of human beings and the need to conserve the environment. Using recycle bins is one of the strategies to sustain the environment which can reduce the usage of non-renewable sources.

### Activity 10.1



DEBATE

#### Aim

To carry out a discussion about the need of development and the importance of efforts in sustaining the environment

#### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Gather information about efforts in sustaining the environment.
3. Appoint a representative from each group. One person will take the role to propose the topic and the other one will represent the opposition side.
4. **Affirmative party:** The activity of development should be carried out to benefit the society.  
**Opposition party:** The activity of environmental sustainability is more important than the activity of development.
5. Prepare a speech with relevant arguments regarding your topic.
6. Discuss your findings.

## Threats to the Environment

Threats to the environment are caused by human activities in the ecosystem. The continuous threats and destruction to the environment result in negative impacts to life. Can you explain the environmental threats that are shown in Photograph 10.1?

### ACTIVITY ZONE

In groups, discuss the threats of climate change to human beings and the environment.



Photograph 10.1 Examples of environmental threats

## Climate Change and Global Warming

A **climate change** refers to the change in temperature of the earth, rainfall distribution and drastic changes of the winds (Photograph 10.2). These changes can be seen as a result of the greenhouse effect phenomenon (Figure 10.2(a)).

When sunlight enters the atmosphere of the earth, some of the light is reflected back into space in the form of infrared rays. When heat energy is released, most of the energy will be absorbed by the greenhouse gases such as **carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxide** and **chlorofluorocarbon (CFC)** which exist in the atmosphere of the earth, thus preventing the infrared rays from being reflected back into space.

Heat energy that is not reflected keeps the earth at an average temperature so it is not too cold for the survival of organisms (Figure 10.2(b)). Gases such as carbon dioxide are naturally formed but human activities have caused the increase in concentration of these gases. Thus, more heat energy is trapped which consequently increases the temperature of the earth (Table 10.1). This condition is known as the **greenhouse effect**.

## Bio Exploration

Greenhouse technology is implemented in countries with temperate climate to protect crops during winter. The glass panels of a greenhouse allow light to pass through but prevent heat from being released into the surroundings. Hence, the temperature inside the greenhouse can be maintained throughout the year.

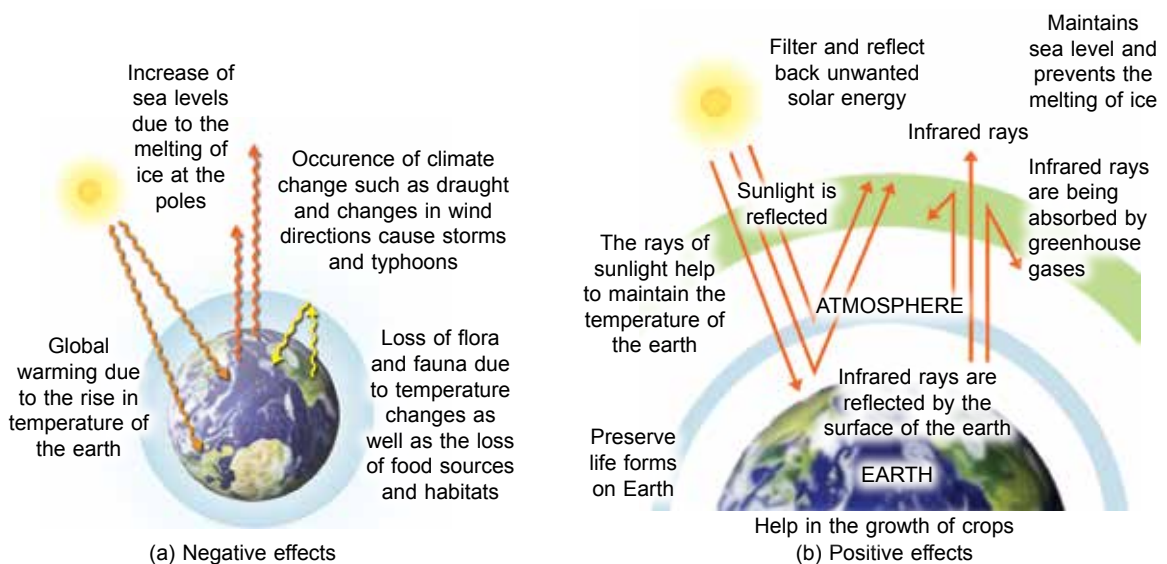
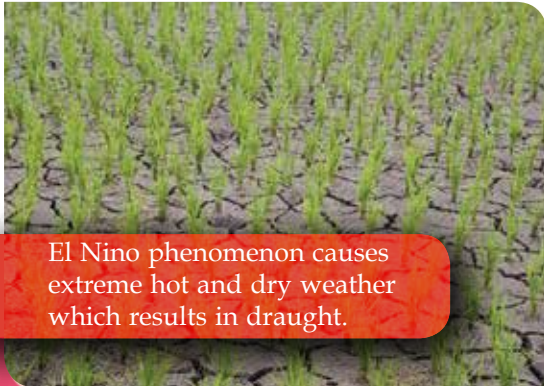


Figure 10.2 The greenhouse effects

**Table 10.1** Factors causing greenhouse effect and greenhouse gases involved

Factors causing greenhouse effect	Greenhouse gases involved
Burning of fossil fuels	Carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide
Deforestation	Carbon dioxide
Animal farming	Methane
Agricultural activities (nitrogen fertiliser)	Nitrogen oxide
Usage of cooling substances	Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC)



El Niño phenomenon causes extreme hot and dry weather which results in draught.



La Niña phenomenon causes unusual heavy rain which results in a serious flood.

**Photograph 10.2** Effects of climate change

### Deforestation and Loss of Biodiversity

Can you imagine what will happen to a forest if the trees are cut down without planning? **Deforestation** is the action of clearing a wide area of trees in a large scale. It is the main cause for the loss of biodiversity. Loss of habitats due to deforestation for construction and agricultural activities has caused the extinction of many species of flora and fauna (Table 10.2).

**Table 10.2** The purpose of deforestation and the negative impacts of deforestation activities

The purpose of deforestation activities	Negative impacts of deforestation activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To obtain timber for construction work, furniture and paper</li> <li>Mineral mining</li> <li>Opening new areas to carry out agricultural activities</li> <li>Building residential areas and roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil erosion (Figure 10.3)</li> <li>Flash floods</li> <li>Climate change</li> <li>Loss of biodiversity</li> <li>Disruption of nitrogen cycle, water cycle and carbon cycle</li> <li>Loss of water catchment areas</li> </ul>

### History Corner

Malaysia had lost the last female Sumatran rhinoceros when 'Iman' was announced dead on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 in Borneo Rhino Sanctuary at Tabin Wildlife Reserve, Lahad Datu. Iman had suffered a tumour in her uterus a few years ago.



**Photograph 10.3** Iman (a female Sumatran rhinoceros)

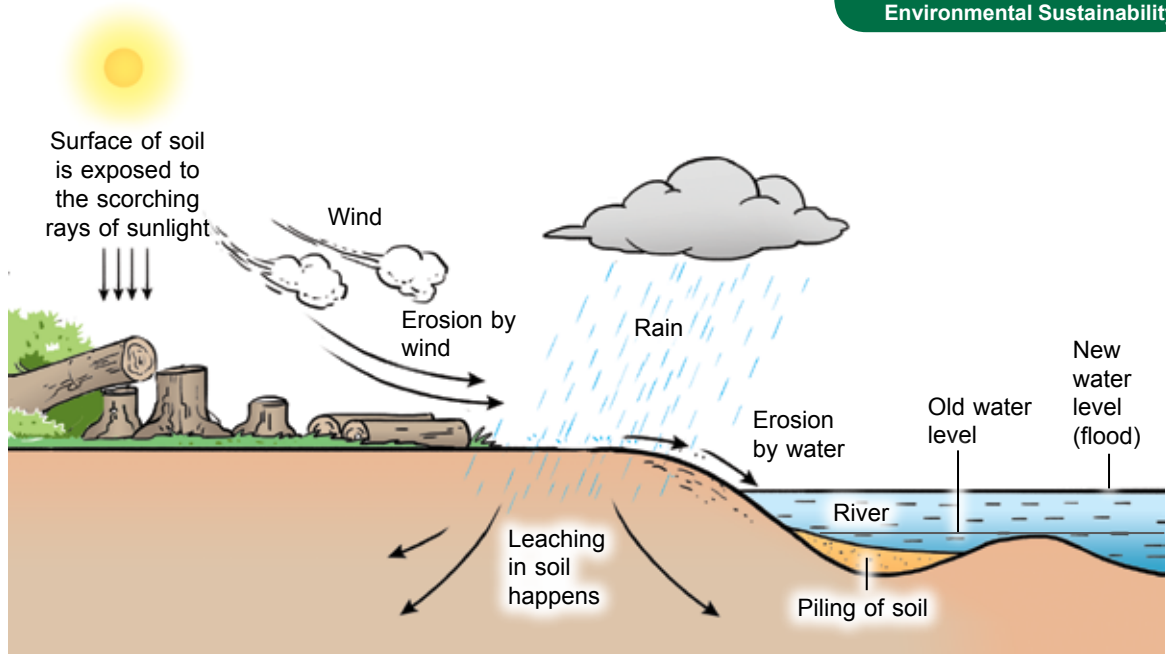


Figure 10.3 Deforestation causes soil erosion and floods

Global changes caused by pollution are contributing to the **loss of biodiversity**. In addition, illegal hunting of wildlife for the purpose of food, medical and handicraft industries has subsequently reduced animal populations, driving certain species to extinction. Furthermore, acid rain causes the pH of water to become low, a condition in which a great number of fish eggs cannot hatch and some adult fish die.

### Eutrophication

Algal blooms, death of aquatic life and deterioration of water quality are the effects of **eutrophication**. Eutrophication is a process that occurs when the water ecosystem becomes rich with nutrients, resulting in changes to the structure of the ecosystem. Excessive usage of nitrate and phosphate fertilisers in agricultural activities and other factors can also cause eutrophication (Figure 10.4 and Figure 10.5).

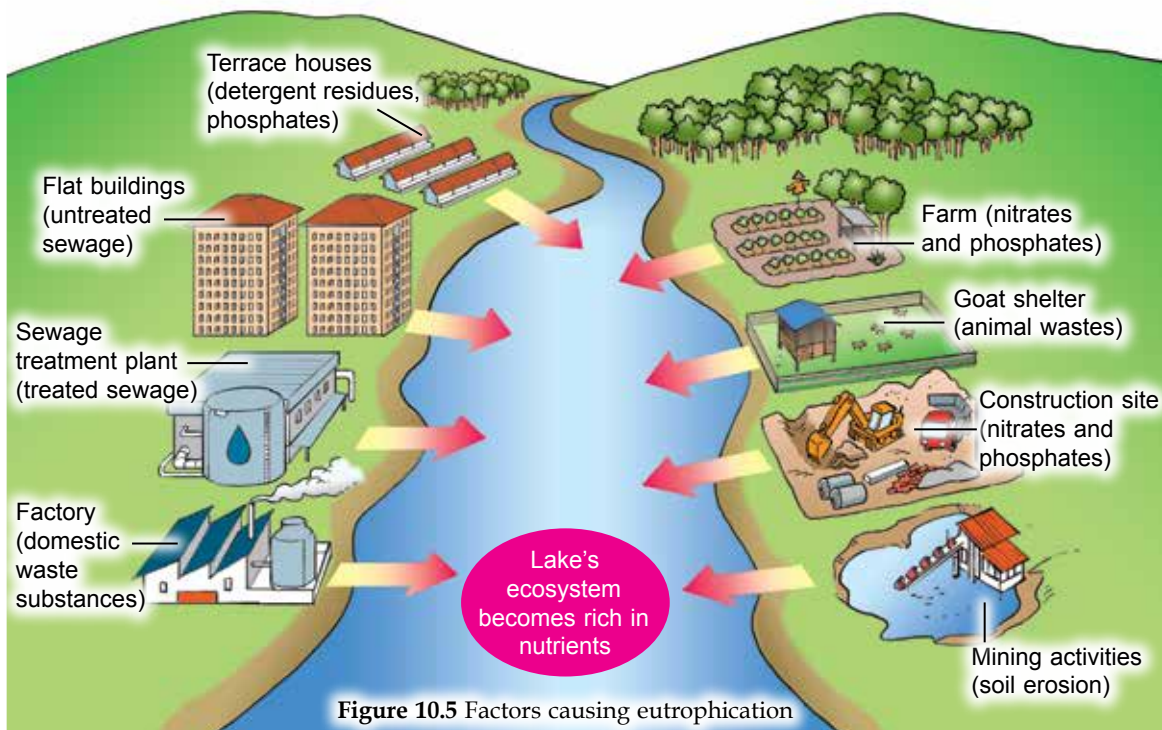
Excess nitrate and phosphate residuals flow into lakes and rivers with the help of rain water. The increase in **nitrate** and **phosphate** stimulates rapid growth of algae, covering up the water surface.

This condition is known as **eutrophication**. This situation reduces the penetration of sunlight into the water.

Decomposer bacteria disintegrate dead aquatic plants and animals in the presence of oxygen, which causes an excessive oxygen reduction in the water. This increases the level of **biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)**.

The rate of photosynthesis of aquatic plants slows down and the content of dissolved oxygen in the water decreases. This causes aquatic plants and animals to die. The abundance of algae and the death of aquatic organisms also cause a rise in the population of decomposer bacteria.

Figure 10.4 Eutrophication



**Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)** is the total amount of oxygen needed by microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi to decompose organic materials in water. A high BOD level indicates low quality of water source, as there are many organic substances and decomposed microorganisms in the water. A low BOD level means the water is of good quality as it is unpolluted and dissolved oxygen content is high.





## 10.1

## Level of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) Present in Different Water Samples

## EXPERIMENT

**Problem statement**

Which water sample has the highest BOD level?

**Aim**

To compare the level of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) present in various water samples

**Hypothesis**

Drain water has the highest BOD level.

**Variables**

**Manipulated variable:** Water samples

**Responding variable:** BOD level

**Constant variables:** Volume of water and volume of methylene blue solution

**Materials**

Labelling paper, water samples from various sources (tap water, drain water, river water, pond water and well water), distilled water, 0.1% methylene blue solution

**Apparatus**

Reagent bottles with cap, 1 ml syringe with needle, stopwatch, marker pen, measuring cylinder

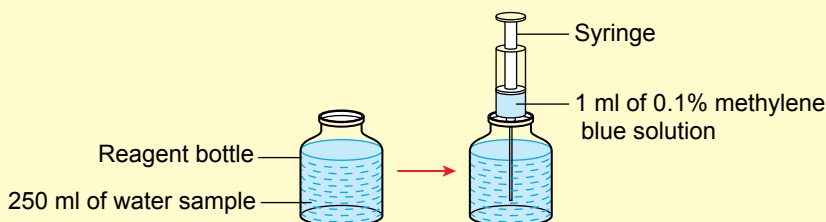
**Procedure**

Figure 10.6 The set-up of apparatus

1. Get five water samples, each 250 ml, from five different sources (tap water, drain water, river water, pond water and well water).
2. Pour each water sample into separate reagent bottles until full. Label every reagent bottle (Figure 10.6).
3. Using a syringe, add 1 ml of 0.1% methylene blue solution into each water sample.
4. Put the cap of each reagent bottle immediately and place all the bottles in a dark cupboard. Make sure the reagent bottles are not shaken.
5. Repeat steps 2 to 4 using distilled water.
6. Check the reagent bottles every one hour for the next four hours until 0.1% methylene blue solution is decolourised.
7. Record the time for the 0.1% methylene blue solution to decolourise.
8. The rate of water pollution is calculated using the formula:

**PRE CAUTIONS**

Ensure that the end of the syringe reaches the bottom of the reagent bottle when adding 0.1% methylene blue solution.

$$\text{Rate of water pollution} = \frac{1}{\text{Time taken for 0.1\% methylene blue solution to decolourise (hour)}}$$

**Results**

Water samples	Time taken for 0.1% methylene blue solution to decolourise (hour)	The rate of water pollution (hour <sup>-1</sup> )	BOD level
Tap water			
Drain water			
River water			
Pond water			
Well water			
Distilled water			

**Discussion**

1. Explain the reason why the end of the syringe must reach the bottom part of the reagent bottle when putting in the 0.1% methylene blue solution.
2. From the experiment, which one of the water samples
  - (a) takes the fastest time for the 0.1% methylene blue solution to decolourise?
  - (b) is the slowest for the 0.1% methylene blue solution to decolourise?
3. Compare the BOD levels of all five water samples.
4. Why is this experiment being repeated using distilled water?
5. What is the relationship between time taken for 0.1% methylene blue solution to decolourise and the level of water pollution?

**Conclusion**

Is the hypothesis accepted? Suggest a suitable conclusion.

**Pollution****Air Pollution**

**Air pollution** happens when there is an increase in the pollutant substances such as **gases, smoke, dust and particles** in the atmosphere which affect health and lives of human beings, animals and plants. These pollutants increase when there is a rise of smog and gases released by vehicles as well as industrial factories and also from open burning (Figure 10.7).



Exhaust fumes from vehicles

**Pollutant substances:**

- Nitrogen oxide
- Carbon monoxide
- Lead
- Smoke and soot (small particles of carbon)
- Hydrocarbon gases (example: benzene)



Smoke from industrial factories

**Pollutant substances:**

- Sulphur dioxide
- Nitrogen oxide
- Dust
- Carbon monoxide
- Carbon dioxide



Open burning

**Pollutant substances:**

- Carbon dioxide
- Smoke and soot

Figure 10.7 Sources of air pollution and the pollutants

The burning of fossil fuels by charcoal burning plants, industrial factories and vehicles releases carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere. These gases combine with water vapour in the atmosphere to form nitric acid and sulphuric acid, and later come down as acid rain (Figure 10.8). Acid rain causes the soil to become infertile due to the pH value of less than 5. Acid rain also destroys leaf tissues and damages the roots of plants. In addition, an increase in water acidity reduces plankton population which is the food source for fish. This affects the food chain and can cause the death of various organisms. Acid rain also causes skin diseases and tissue damage in humans.

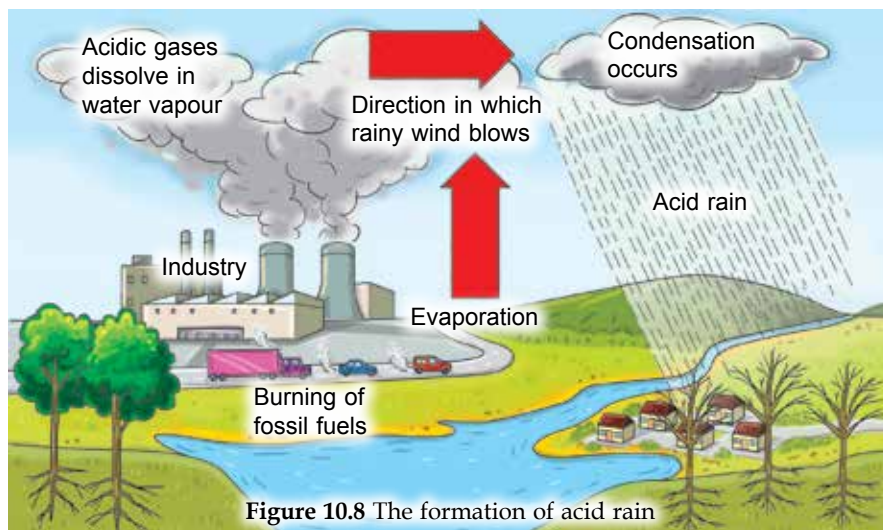
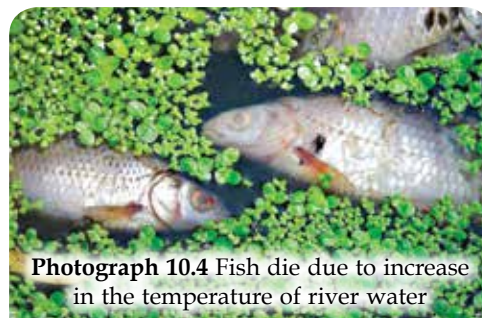


Figure 10.8 The formation of acid rain

## Thermal Pollution

**Thermal pollution** refers to the deterioration of water quality due to excessive heat dissipation into water caused by processes that change the water temperature. Water is used as a cooling agent to cool down generators in industrial factories and hydroelectric power generator plants. The hot water produced is then discharged into rivers or lakes causing thermal pollution. The increased temperature of the river water is unsuitable for aquatic habitats. As the temperature of water rises, the dissolved oxygen content in the water will decrease and threaten the survival of aquatic lives.



Thermal pollution endangers the lives of aquatic organisms and is also hazardous to the environment. The rise in water temperature disrupts biochemical processes of aquatic organisms as fish and other aquatic animals normally live in a range of certain temperature. For example, the increase of water temperature can cause early hatching of fish eggs or worse, they fail to hatch. For certain species, a drastic increase of water temperature can cause instant death (Photograph 10.4). Furthermore, for organisms such as algae, higher temperature enhances their growth and consequently, raises the BOD level.

## Noise Pollution

Noise pollution can be defined as sounds that disturb and cause detrimental effects to the health of humans and animals.

Is the sound of a lawn mower coming from the school field considered as a noise pollution? How do you manage noise pollution? The sound of vehicles, construction activities, agricultural and industrial machineries and loud music in event gatherings are some example of noise pollution.

Exposure to high level of noise for a prolonged period of time can also cause health problems such as **high blood pressure, depression and headache.**

## Human Population Growth Explosion

**Population growth explosion** is the increase in total number of humans living in a certain area (Photograph 10.5). As a result of the rapid population growth, there is an equally rapid reduction of natural resources, which leads to **deforestation, loss of biodiversity and global warming.** Forests are cleared to provide shelters, infrastructures, agriculture lands and various facilities for the increasing population. Hence, living organisms are exposed to threats such as problems in having raw water sources and supply of clean water, increase of pollution and diseases, and the extinction of various organisms among others.

The demand on water and sources available in the local community are not well-managed with the existing natural resources in the area. This has resulted in transporting the sources from another location to the demand zones. Furthermore, sewage also contaminates land areas, a threat to pollute the environment. In order to overcome these problems, **water treatment technology** is used although there is an increase in the cost of water sources as well as the cost of treated water.

## Bio Exploration

World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates about 1.1 billion of youths and teenagers are at risk of hearing loss due to personal audio devices that are used excessively at unsafe sound level as well as exposure to damaging sound in a noisy place.



## Bio with PHYSICS

The pitch of sound depends on the frequency of the sound waves produced. Sound frequency is measured in Hertz (Hz) unit. The sound frequency that can be detected by human ears is limited within the range of 20 Hz to 20 000 Hz.



## Bio with ECONOMY

Population in Malaysia has been estimated at around 32.6 million people in the year 2019 with a yearly population growth rate of 0.6% (Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia). It is important to know the population statistic in a country for planning purposes in order to administer the country.

Photograph 10.5 Human population growth explosion

## ACTIVITY ZONE

Carry out a study on the impact of human population growth explosion to the environment.

## Activity 10.2

**Aim**

To prepare a strategic action plan to reduce the level of air and water pollution around the school for the next 10 years

**Procedure**

1. Work in groups.
2. Each group needs to prepare a strategic action plan to reduce the level of air and water pollution around the school for the next 10 years.
3. Discuss and generate ideas to gain information on the following aspects:
  - (a) Identify the strength and weakness of the school authority in reducing the level of air and water pollution
  - (b) Identify opportunities, challenges and threats
  - (c) Identify strategic issues
  - (d) Outline the aims, objectives and target
  - (e) Generate strategies in accomplishing objectives
  - (f) Build an action plan, operational plan and contingency plan
4. Gather all information in the form of a folio. Submit it to your teacher for assessment.

## Formative Practice 10.1

1. State **three** human activities that have negative impacts on the environment.
2. Explain how an agricultural activity can cause the death of aquatic animals.
3. How does an increase in the concentration of greenhouse gases contribute to the rise in the temperature of the earth?
4. Justify the importance of maintaining rivers as a habitat in an ecosystem.



# 10.2 Preservation, Conservation and Restoration of Ecosystem

We have studied how human activities can have negative impacts towards the environment. Nevertheless, these human activities do not always affect the environment. In managing development, preventive measures should be taken towards the preservation, conservation and restoration of the ecosystem to ensure sustainable development. What is meant by preservation, conservation and restoration of an ecosystem?

**Career Tips**

A drainage engineer plans and manages the construction of drainage or sewage systems to maintain environmental stability.

# Necessity in the Preservation, Conservation and Restoration of an Ecosystem

## ECOSYSTEM PRESERVATION

- **Preservation of an ecosystem** can be defined as the efforts made to protect the components of an ecosystem so it will remain in its natural condition.
- One of the ways towards preserving an ecosystem is by gazetting forests as reserved areas to protect the natural beauty of flora and fauna.
  - Reserved forests are protected from any development activities.
  - 90% in the upper part of Belum Forest Reserve is still unexplored and has yet to become research sites.



Photograph 10.6  
Belum Reserved Forest, Perak

## ACTIVITY ZONE

Carry out brainstorming sessions with members of other institutions for suggestion on the preservation, conservation and restoration of the environment in the local community.

## ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION

- **Conservation of an ecosystem** means the efforts to restore environmental resources such as water, forests, energy, air, minerals, among others so they will continue to exist.
- Conservation strategies are carried out in order to save the components of an endangered ecosystem.
- There are two strategies of conservation, which are *in situ* and *ex situ*.
  - *In situ* conservation retains wildlife species in their original habitat such as **natural parks** and **marine parks**.
  - *Ex situ* conservation keeps wildlife species outside of their original habitat such as in **zoos** and **botanical parks**.



Photograph 10.7 Lost World Petting Zoo

## ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

- **Restoration of an ecosystem** means efforts for renewing and restoring natural ecosystems that have deteriorated, damaged or destroyed due to human activities.
- Reforestation and planting of cover crops are steps of restoration being taken to ensure the continuity of natural resources for future generations.



Photograph 10.8  
Tree replanting programme

## Activity 10.3



## MINI PROJECT

**Aim**

To carry out a project to restore a mangrove ecosystem

**Procedure**

1. Prepare relevant documents to apply for a permission to carry out a mini project to restore a nearby mangrove ecosystem. Address the documents to the local District Council/ City Council.
2. Before carrying out the project, the teacher should provide some guidelines on the following:
  - (a) Tasks are to be carried out in small groups based on assigned areas
  - (b) The objective of the project
  - (c) Precautionary steps
  - (d) Tasks for each group
  - (e) Materials needed
3. Prepare a report about the project findings.

## Formative Practice 10.2

1. State the meaning of:
  - (a) Ecosystem preservation
  - (b) Ecosystem conservation
  - (c) Ecosystem restoration
2. Name a place that carries out a conservation activity:
  - (a) *in situ*
  - (b) *ex situ*
3. A piece of land at a hillside will be developed as a residential area. As a housing developer, suggest steps on the conservation and restoration of the ecosystem in that area. Give some details.



# 10.3 Practices in Environmental Sustainability

Practices that contribute towards environmental sustainability are intended to ensure sufficient availability of natural resources to benefit all current and future life forms on Earth. In sustaining the environment, steps must be taken to prevent environmental pollution, protect the capacity of ecosystems and avoid development that will endanger the health of human beings or affect their quality of life. All parties are responsible in sustaining the environment. Figure 10.9 shows ways and activities on how everyone can help in sustaining the environment.

## Bio Exploration

National Cleanliness Policy is an initiative by the Malaysian government to become a cleaner country and create a society that practises good hygiene and cleanliness in the culture.

# Practices that Contribute towards Environmental Sustainability



Riding a bicycle as a way to be environment-friendly

## Environment-friendly Transport

- Use environment-friendly transport such as bicycles or hybrid and electric vehicles.
- Practise carpooling.
- Use public transport such as buses, commuters, monorails, Light Railway Transit (LRT), Electric Train Service and KLIA Express/ KLIA Transit

## Energy Saving

- The main source of electric energy comes from the burning of non-renewable substances which are fossil fuels such as petrol and diesel.
- Use electricity wisely to reduce the release of pollutant substances such as carbon monoxide.



Turn off electrical switches when not in use

## 5R's Concept

- The disposal of waste materials can be reduced when we practise 5R's:
  - **R**ethink
  - **R**epair
  - **R**euse
  - **R**educe
  - **R**ecycle



Recycle

## The Usage of Alternative Renewable Energy

- Renewable energy means energy that is generated from natural resources such as the sun, wind, waves, water, geothermal and biomass.
- Renewable energy is cleaner, easier and safer.



Solar panel



Figure 10.9 Practices that contribute to environmental sustainability



### Management of Domestic and Toxic Waste

- The Department of Environment has been given the authority to:
  - Coordinate waste disposal activities
  - Set the maximum limit of waste production
  - Control licenses for categories, content, quantity and risks of waste products
- Upcycling waste substances can reduce waste to be taken to landfill sites.

Management of toxic waste from factories

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Discuss initiatives by the Malaysian government in handling issues regarding environmental sustainability.

### Bio Exploration



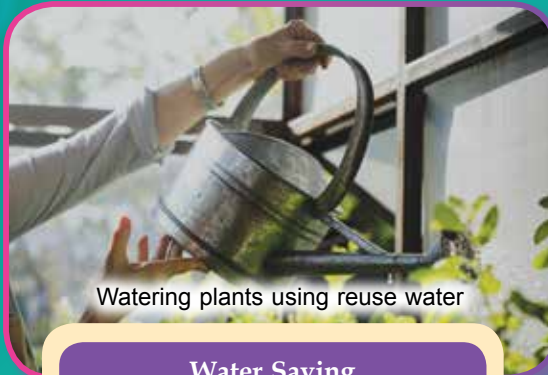
Upcycling waste substances means turning the old substances into new, beautiful and creative things. This activity can reduce waste disposal.

### Biological Control

- Biological control is a way to control the population of pests using their natural enemies.
- It is a way to reduce the usage of pesticides.



Owls as a biological control agent in oil palm plantations



Watering plants using reuse water

### Water Saving

- Collect rain water or reuse water to water plants and wash vehicles.

### Innovation in Malaysia

The National Water Services Commission or 'Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Air Negara' (SPAN) has introduced water efficient products through Water Efficient Product Labelling Scheme for water efficiency products such as water pipes, toilet equipments, urinals, showers and washing machines. This effort is to reduce the rate of water consumption per individual.

## Activity 10.4



CAMPAIGN

### Aim

To discuss initiatives in dealing with issues of environmental sustainability

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Find out information on some of the initiatives in handling the issues of environmental sustainability as follows:
  - (a) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
  - (b) The effort made by local authorities in supporting Local Agenda 21
3. Present the findings of your group in the form of multimedia presentation.

### Bio Exploration

Local Agenda 21 is a programme in which the private sector and the local authority (PBT) work together with the community to plan and manage their surrounding area towards a sustainable development as to lead a better quality lifestyle. There should be a balance of social, economical and environmental needs in all sustainable development.

## Activity 10.5



### Aim

To build a model of a city based on the objectives of SDGs

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Gather information about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
3. List down the objectives of SDGs which are related to municipality.
4. Build a model of a city based on the objectives of SDGs.
5. Use recyclable materials as the main materials in building the model.
6. Prepare a paper work which contains:
  - (a) Abstract
  - (b) Introduction of project
  - (c) Cost
  - (d) List of materials
  - (e) Description of project
  - (f) City plan
  - (g) References

## The Status of Food Security in Malaysia

Food security is defined as having an assurance on the availability of food, as well as sufficient access to food and safe food utilisation.

There are four important components of food security, which are (Figure 10.10):

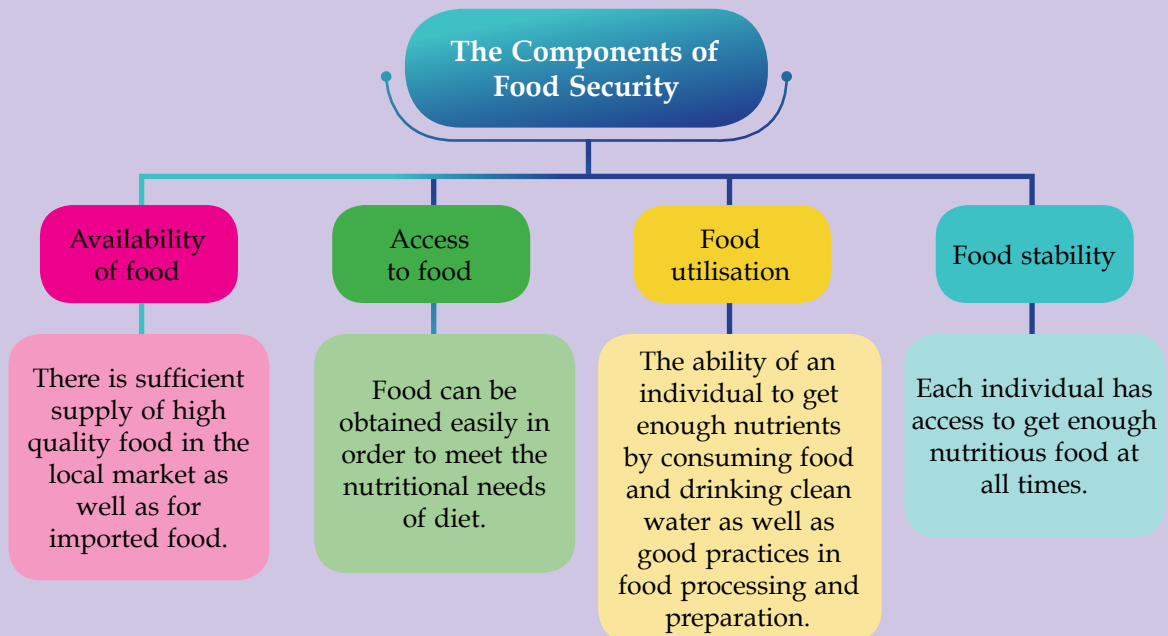
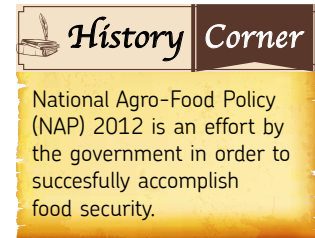
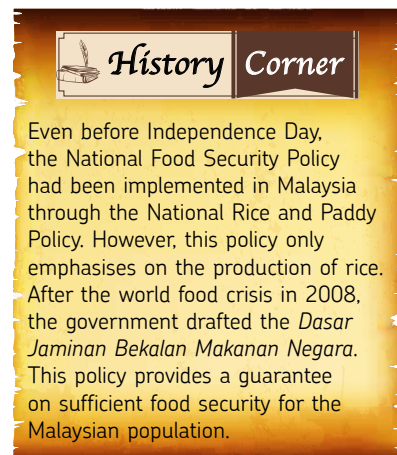


Figure 10.10 The components of food security

**Halal** is an important element in determining the status of food security. Halal food must be manufactured in clean surroundings using methods which emphasise on hygiene and orderliness during the production process. Halal means an inclusive in all aspects, beginning from the farm to the final food product. Other guidelines which are implemented in order to determine food security are **Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)** and **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)**. Just like the halal factor, the two guidelines also emphasise on the quality of processes that are hygienic, healthy and safe during food preparation.



## Activity 10.6



GALLERY WALK

### Aim

To gather information and make a presentation on the steps to increase global food security

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Gather information about the steps to improve global food security.
3. Present all information on posters and carry out activities in the Gallery Walk.

## Formative Practice 10.3

1. List the **four** important components in food security.
2. In your opinion, what are the responsibilities of a food entrepreneur in achieving food security?



3. You are the proprietor of a private company. Suggest **five** steps in saving electricity by all your employees at the office.



# 10.4 Green Technology

## Definition of Green Technology

**Green technology** refers to the development and application of products, equipment and system to preserve the environment and nature while minimising or reducing the negative impacts of human activities.

### ACTIVITY ZONE

Build a green wall or a vertical garden in your school by using solid waste (Photograph 10.9).

Photograph 10.9 Green wall is one of the practices for green technology

10.3.2 10.4.1

## The Use of Green Technology in Environmental Sustainability

Green technology had been a portfolio of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) which was established on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2004, accounting for the long-term and short-term effects of human activities on the environment. National Green Technology Policy (2009) states that any product, equipment or system that fulfilled the criteria such as in Figure 10.11 can be categorised as green technology.



Figure 10.11 Criteria requirement for green technology product, equipment or system

**National Green Technology Policy (NGTP)**, launched in July 2009 gives emphasis on the growth of economy and sustainable development of the country.

Sustainable development must fulfil the needs of current society without abandoning the needs of future generations. NGTP is based on four pillars, which are **energy, environment, economy and social** (Figure 10.12).

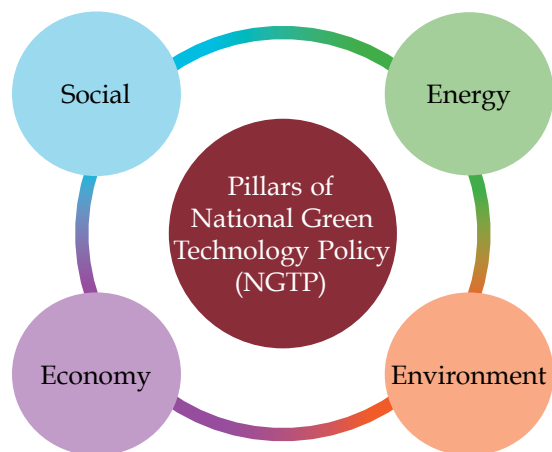


Figure 10.12 The pillars of National Green Technology Policy (NGTP)

# Innovation in Malaysia

Green building is a building concept which has the characteristics of nature-friendly technology. The main purpose of the concept is efficient use of natural resources such as energy, water and materials (Table 10.3).

**Table 10.3** Natural resources and its uses

Natural resources	Uses
Solar energy	Solar panels convert solar energy into electrical energy for lighting inside the buildings
Water	Water catchment systems collect rain water that can be used for plants watering and cleaning of toilets
Building materials	Encourage the usage of recycled materials

The advantages of a green building:

- Reduces negative effects towards human health due to development
- Reduces negative effects towards the environment due to construction activities
- Saves the cost of operation, maintenance and construction

Examples of green building found in Malaysia:



**Photograph 10.10**  
The Perdana Putra building, Putrajaya

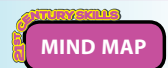


**Photograph 10.11**  
Cyberjaya Community Recycling and Collection Centre

## Bio Exploration

The walls of Cyberjaya Community Recycling and Collection Centre are built from recyclable materials such as cans and empty plastic bottles.

## Activity 10.7



### Aim

To gather information on the four pillars of the National Green Technology Policy and present the findings in class

### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Find information on the four pillars of the National Green Technology Policy.
3. Draw a mind map to present the information gathered.
4. Present your mind map in class.

When a country develops rapidly, the population increases. This causes the demand for certain needs to increase too. Unplanned or bad management of natural resources such as uncontrolled logging, extensive land exploration, release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and disposal of solid waste lead to pollutions. If this is not managed well, the quality of humans' life and the environment can be threatened.

Green technology means practices in the community towards sustaining the environment in order to lead a better lifestyle. What are the practices based on the concept of green technology that you can apply at school or at home to sustain the environment (Figure 10.13)?

### Career Tips

Environmental supervisor is a person supervising the quality and cleanliness of the environment according to existing rules and regulations.

### Practices using the concept of green technology

Producing eco-enzymes from fruit waste into cleaning agents

Recycling kitchen waste and food waste to produce natural fertiliser or growth booster for crops

Producing biogas from organic solid waste

Using banana peels to make flour which can be used as an ingredient to produce natural bioplastic

Producing liquid foliar fertiliser from kitchen waste to be used on leaves as a growth booster for vegetables

Figure 10.13 Practices using the concept of green technology

## Activity 10.8



### Aim

To recycle kitchen and food waste which have exceeded expiry dates to produce natural fertiliser or growth booster for crops

### Procedure

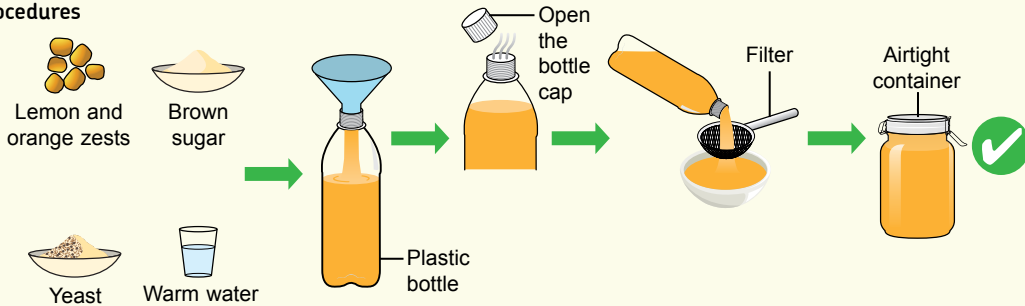
1. Work in groups.
2. Gather information from the Internet about producing natural fertiliser or growth booster for crops using kitchen and food waste.
3. Every group is required to prepare a paperwork on the project which contains:
  - (a) Abstract
  - (b) Introduction
  - (c) Cost
  - (d) List of materials
  - (e) Description of project
  - (f) References
4. After completing the project, test the effectiveness of the fertiliser on potted plants around your school.
5. Present your report in class.

You can produce your own eco-enzymes at home as follows.

**Apparatus and materials**

100 g of brown sugar, 3 g of yeast, 1 L of warm water, 300 g of fresh lemon and orange zests, a 2-L plastic bottle, a sieve, a filter funnel and an airtight container

**Procedures**



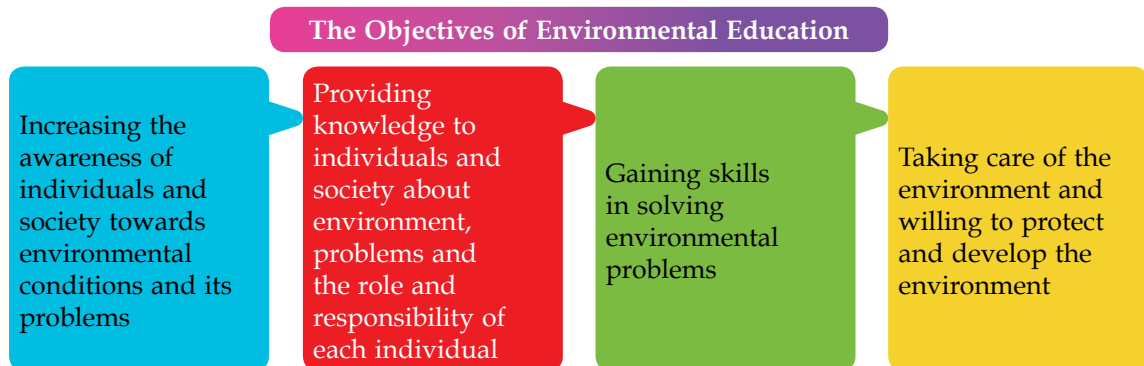
**Figure 10.14** Steps to make eco-enzymes

1. Put all the ingredients shown in Figure 10.14 into a 2-L plastic bottle.
2. Close the cap of the bottle tightly. Shake the bottle vigorously for a few minutes till the brown sugar is dissolved. Open the bottle cap to release the pressure from inside of the bottle.
3. For two weeks, let out the gas produced at least three times a day.
4. Put the bottle in a place where the temperature is about 35 °C, such as on a refrigerator.
5. After two weeks, filter the solution to remove the lemon and orange zests.
6. Keep the filtered solution in an airtight container. The enzyme solution can be used to clean the floors of your house.

## Application of Social Science to Solve Environmental Problems and Challenges

**Social science** makes use of scientific methods to investigate the field of humanity. One of the branches in the field of social science is **education**. In the **Third Malaysia Plan**, emphasis on environmental education has been introduced into the **Malaysian education system**. Environmental education aims in creating an awareness among the population into being responsible towards environment and environmental issues.

Figure 10.15 shows the objectives of the environmental education.



**Figure 10.15** The objectives of environmental education



**Communication** is also one of the aspects in social science which plays important roles in solving environmental problems and challenges using mass media, pamphlets, magazines, posters and films. Various activities can be implemented to rouse the interest of people in taking care of the environment. For example, promoting awareness campaigns to discourage tree-cuttings as well as to preserve water and soil resources. Other activities include coordinating a large-scale *gotong-royong* in residential areas, schools, recreation parks or beaches, and organising competitions for cleanliness and beautification of schools and house compounds.

### Think Smart

"Without developments, there will be no pollutions." How far is the truth of this statement?

## Activity 10.9



### FIELD RESEARCH

#### Aim

To cooperate with villagers in carrying out a survey to identify and solve local environmental issues

#### Procedure

1. Work in groups.
2. Set an area for study and identify an environmental issue in that area.
3. Carry out interviews with villagers and other parties involved.
4. Prepare a report containing:
  - (a) Title of the survey
  - (b) Acknowledgement
  - (c) Contents
    - (i) Introduction – explaining the background of the survey
    - (ii) Explain the issue of the environment
    - (iii) Explain suggestions in dealing with the environmental issue
    - (iv) Implementation of suggestions
  - (d) References
5. Present the report of your findings in class.

## Formative Practice 10.4

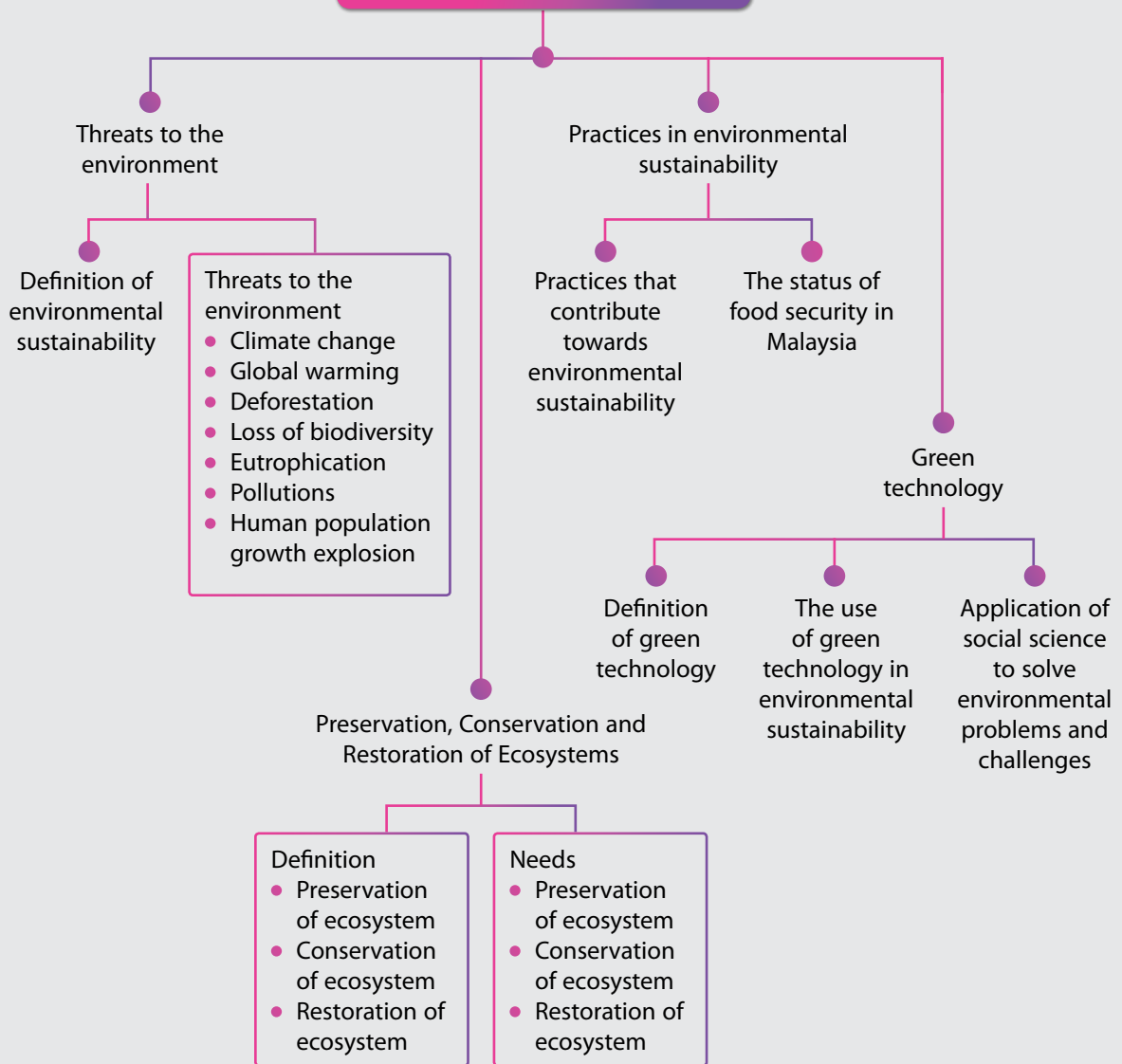
1. State the meaning of green technology.
2. What are the roles of an individual in order to materialise the National Green Technology Policy?
3. The campaign of forbidding the usage of plastic straws is one of the initiatives towards sustainable development. As a restaurant owner, discuss the effects of the enforcement of this campaign to your business.





# Memory Flashback

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Interactive  
Bio 10



# SELF-REFLECTION



Complete the following self-reflection to identify the important concepts that you have studied.



Important concepts	Very good	Try again
Definition of environmental sustainability		
Threats to the environment		
Levels of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) needed in different water samples		
Definition of preservation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems		
The needs in the preservation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems		
Practices that contribute towards environmental sustainability		
The status of food security in Malaysia		
Definition of green technology		
The use of green technology in environmental sustainability		
Application of social science to solve environmental problems and challenges		

## Summative Practice

10

1. Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2 show activities that threaten the ecosystem.

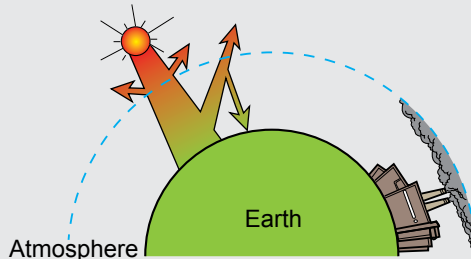


Figure 1.1



Figure 1.2

- State the environmental threats shown in Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2.
- Name **two** pollutants being released from the activity shown in Figure 1.1.
- Based on Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2, explain how those activities can cause the world to experience climate change.
- Discuss the effects of the activities in Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2 towards the ecosystem.



2. A country is deemed to have food security when individuals, households or all citizens get sufficient, safe and nutritious food to lead a healthy and active life. Photograph 1 shows a situation where children in an area are experiencing food security threats.



**Photograph 1**

- (a) What is meant by food security?
- (b) Predict one of the health problems that might be experienced by the children in that area.
- (c) In your opinion, what can be the cause of food security threats in that area?
- (d) Through National Agro-Food Policy (NAFP), discuss the responsibilities of the government in order to overcome the problems experienced by the children in that area.
3. The Malayan tiger is an animal facing the threat of extinction in Malaysia. Currently, the number is dwindling to less than 200 throughout the whole country. These animals that can be sold at a high price in the international markets have become the target of illegal hunters.
- (a) State the physical characteristics of a Malayan tiger.
- (b) Explain how the extinction of the Malayan tiger will affect the stability of the ecosystem.
- (c) Other than illegal hunting, predict other factors that may contribute to the extinction of the Malayan tiger.
- (d) What are the steps of preservation and conservation that can be done by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) in order to overcome the extinction of Malayan tigers?



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mind

4. The practice of 5S, *sisih* (separate), *susun* (arrange), *sapu* (sweep), *seragam* (uniform) and *sentiasa amal* (always practice) are practices taken from the Japanese culture with the objective of enhancing a better workplace in an organisation. As an employee, would you carry out these practices? Give your reasons.

# Theme Inheritance and Genetic Technology

# 3

This theme aims to provide an understanding of inheritance, variation and genetic technology in life. Genetic and environmental factors play an important role to variation in a species.

The theme also emphasises on the application of knowledge in genetics in Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology field.

- What are the meaning of allele and locus as well as their association with gene in a chromosome?
- What are the causes of chromosomal mutations?
- What are the examples of genetically modified organisms (GMO) produced by genetic engineering technology?

## Chapter

# 11

# Inheritance

## Chapter

### Exploration

- Monohybrid Inheritance
- Dihybrid Inheritance
- Genes and Alleles
- Inheritance in Humans



Learning Standards



## Do You

### Know?

- What is the meaning of monohybrid inheritance?
- What is the meaning of dihybrid inheritance?
- What are the relationships between genes and alleles in human inheritance?
- Which characteristics can be inherited in human inheritance?

## Dimple, A Genetic Defect

**A**n individual who has indentations on his/her cheek or more popularly known as dimples looks cute when he/she smiles. Do you know that dimple or gelasin is actually a genetic defect of a facial muscle called zygomaticus major?

Zygomaticus major muscle is shorter than normal, which pulls the cheek skin to form an indentation. Dimple is a dominant trait which can be inherited. In Chapter 11, you will learn how each trait is inherited from one generation to another.



### Keywords



- ▶ Monohybrid cross
- ▶ Dihybrid cross
- ▶ Genes
- ▶ Alleles
- ▶ Traits
- ▶ Characteristics
- ▶ Dominant
- ▶ Recessive
- ▶ Homozygotes
- ▶ Heterozygotes
- ▶ Purebreds
- ▶ Hybrids
- ▶ Parental generation
- ▶ Filial generation
- ▶ Genotype
- ▶ Phenotype
- ▶ Locus
- ▶ Autosome
- ▶ Sex chromosome
- ▶ Karyotype
- ▶ Sex-linked inheritance
- ▶ Pedigree