

Plants Make Their Own Food



Level: L Word Count: 190
100th Word: *sugar* (page 14)

Teaching Focus:

Phonics: Word Study

Different letters can make the same sound. Look at the words light and life. What parts of the word make the same sound?

My
Science
Library

Levels 2-3

Tips on Reading This Book with Children:

1. Read the title.

Predictions – after reading the title have children make predictions about the book.

2. Take a book walk.

Talk about the pictures in the book. Use the content words from the book as you take the picture walk.

Have children find one or two words they know as they do a picture walk.

3. Have children find words they recognize in the text.

4. Have children read the remaining text aloud.

5. Strategy Talk – use to assist children while reading.

- Get your mouth ready
- Look at the picture
- Think...does it make sense
- Think...does it look right
- Think...does it sound right
- Chunk it – by looking for a part you know

6. Read it again.

7. Complete the activities at the end of the book.



Plants Make Their Own Food

by Julie K. Lundgren

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Kristi Lew



Science content editor: Kristi Lew

A former high school teacher with a background in biochemistry and more than 10 years of experience in cytogenetic laboratories, Kristi Lew specializes in taking complex scientific information and making it fun and interesting for scientists and non-scientists alike. She is the author of more than 20 science books for children and teachers.

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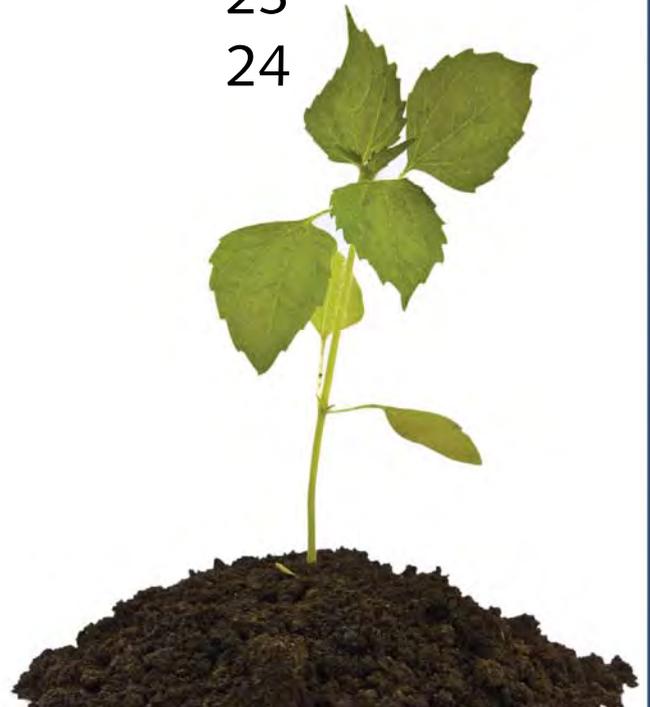


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Plug Into the Sun

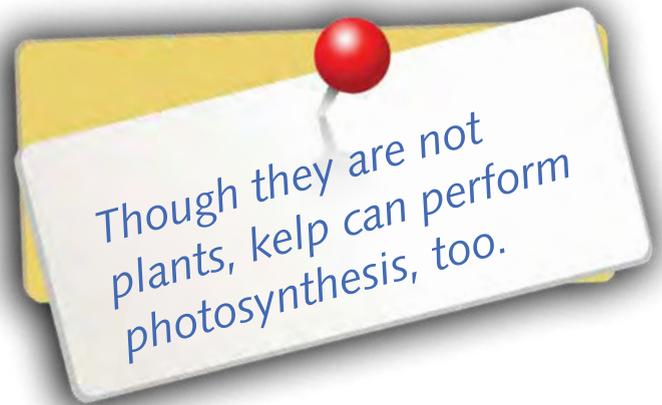
The Sun provides Earth with light, a form of **energy**. Light energy from the Sun fuels life on Earth.





*The Sun bathes Earth in
warmth and light.*

Using the Sun's light energy, green plants and a few other life forms, such as kelp, make their own food in a **process** called **photosynthesis**.

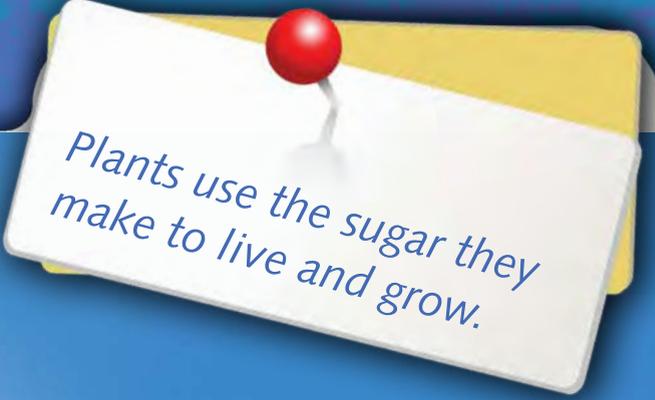




Food Factories

Plants use photosynthesis to change two **ingredients** into a simple sugar. The ingredients are water and a gas called carbon dioxide.

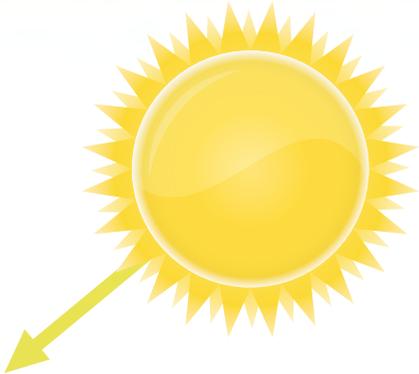




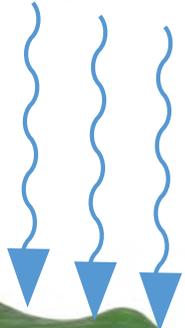
*Plants use the sugar they
make to live and grow.*



Roots take in water. Leaves **absorb carbon dioxide** from the air. Sunlight provides the energy for photosynthesis to work.



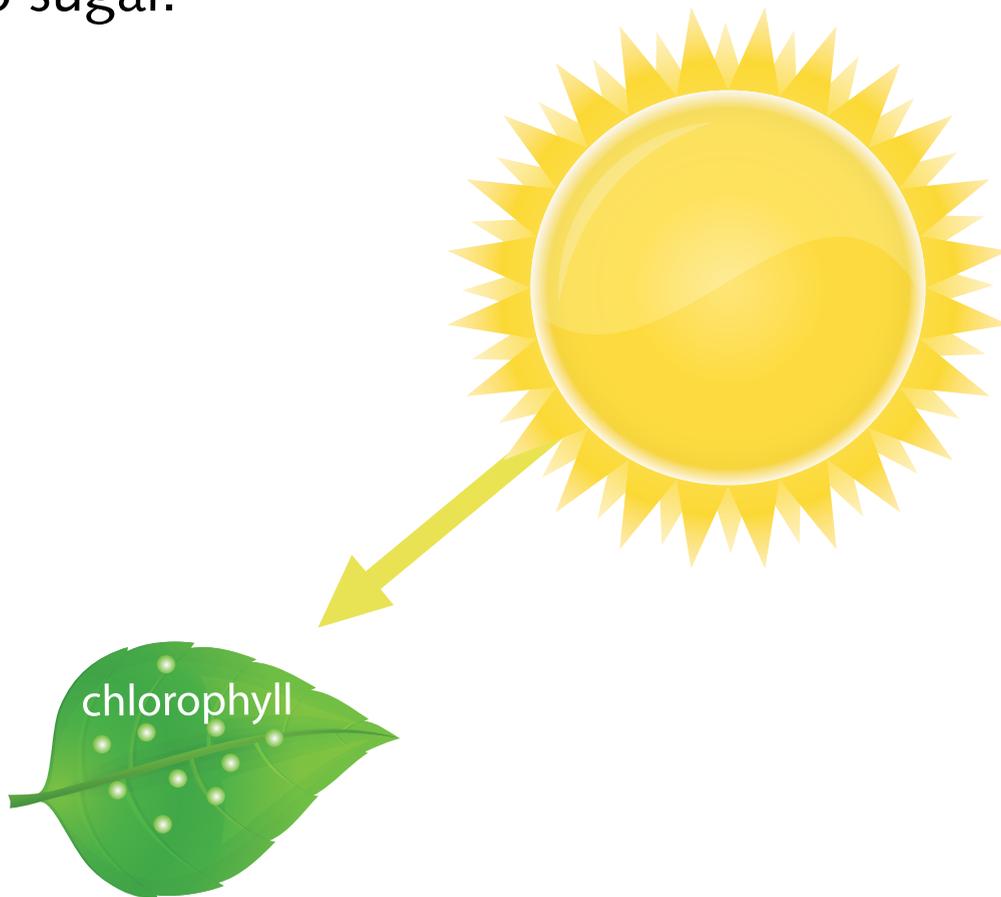
carbon dioxide



water



Chlorophyll absorbs the Sun's light energy. The plant then uses this captured energy to change carbon dioxide and water into sugar.





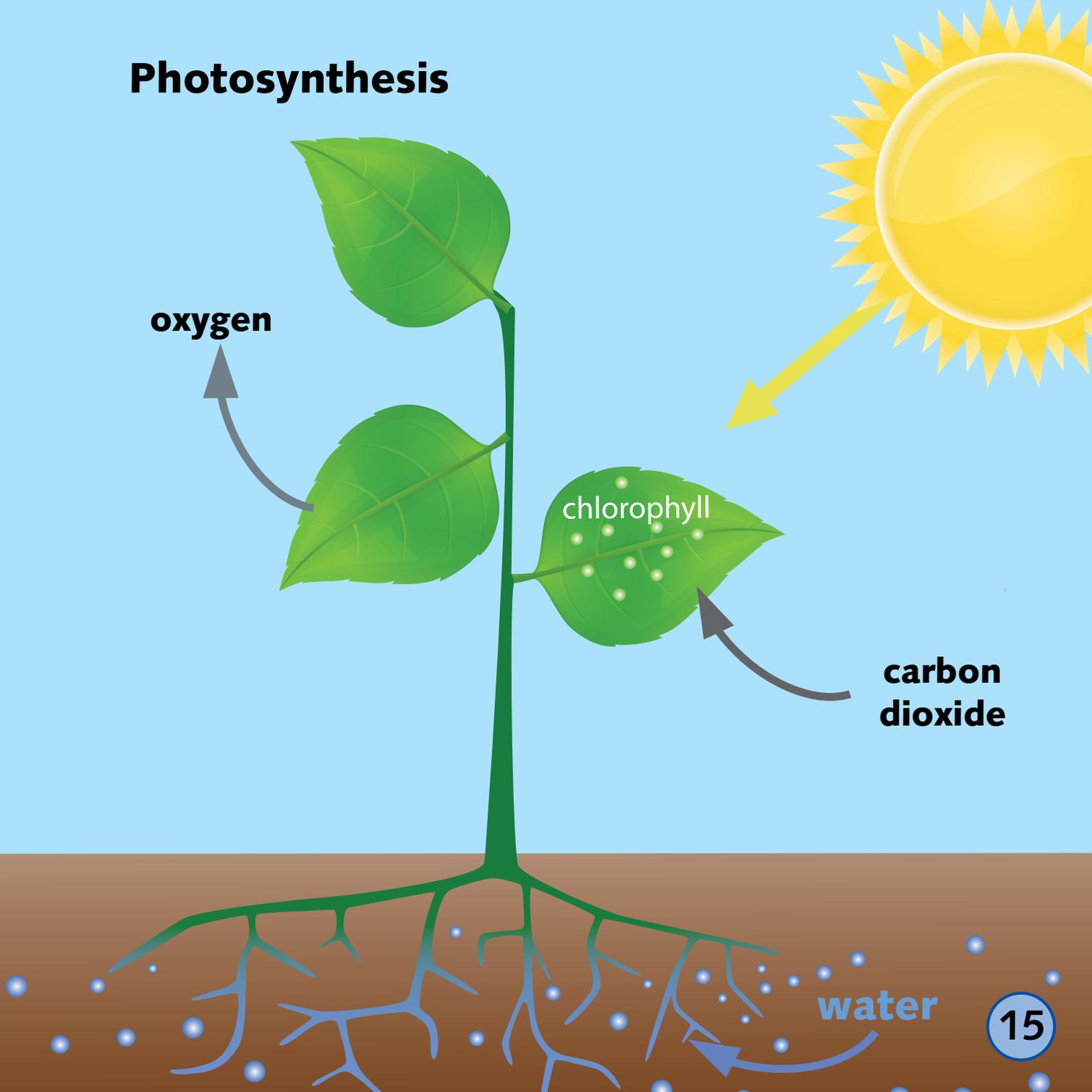
*Chlorophyll gives plants
their green color.*

Besides sugar, photosynthesis makes a gas called **oxygen**. Plants make more oxygen than they need, so they let go of the extra oxygen.



Gases enter and exit
plant leaves through very
tiny openings.

Photosynthesis



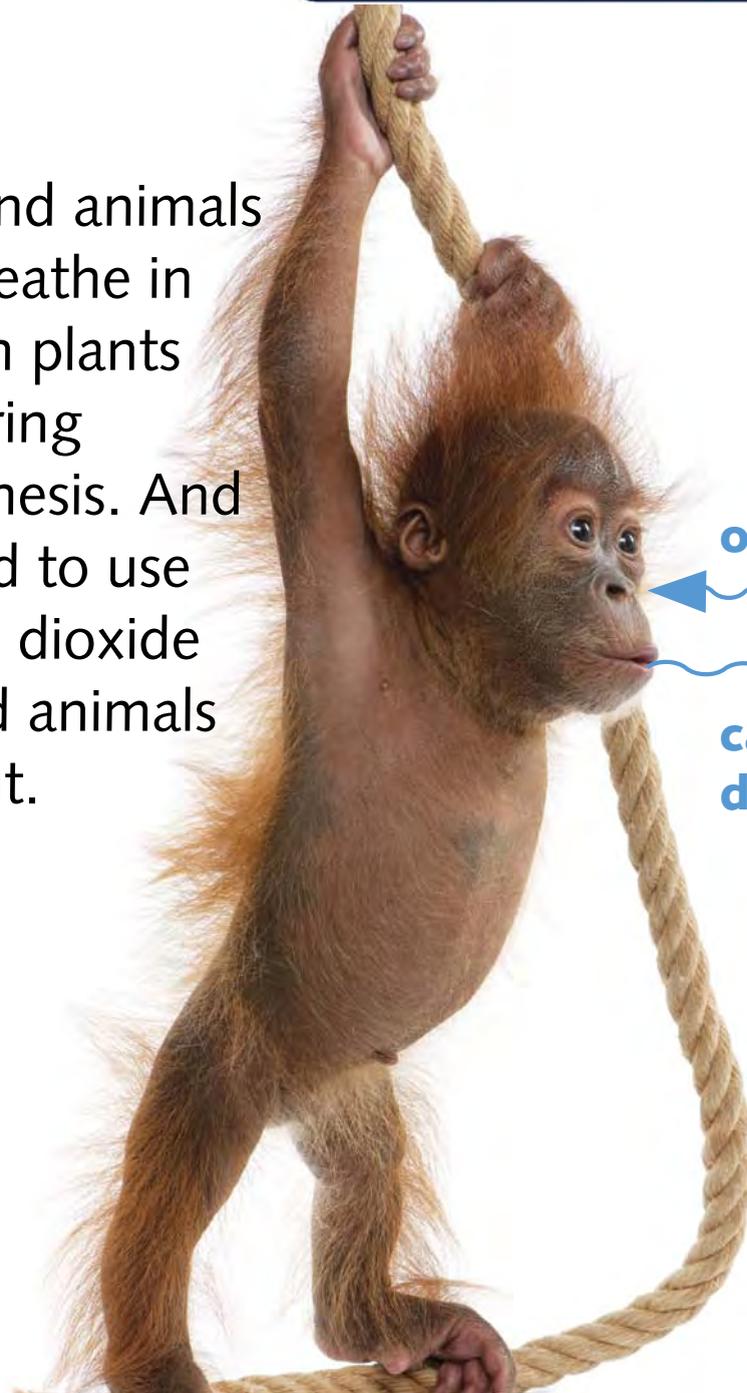
The Air We Breathe

Both animals and plants need air. People need oxygen from air and plants need carbon dioxide.



Animals help plants with photosynthesis by breathing out carbon dioxide.

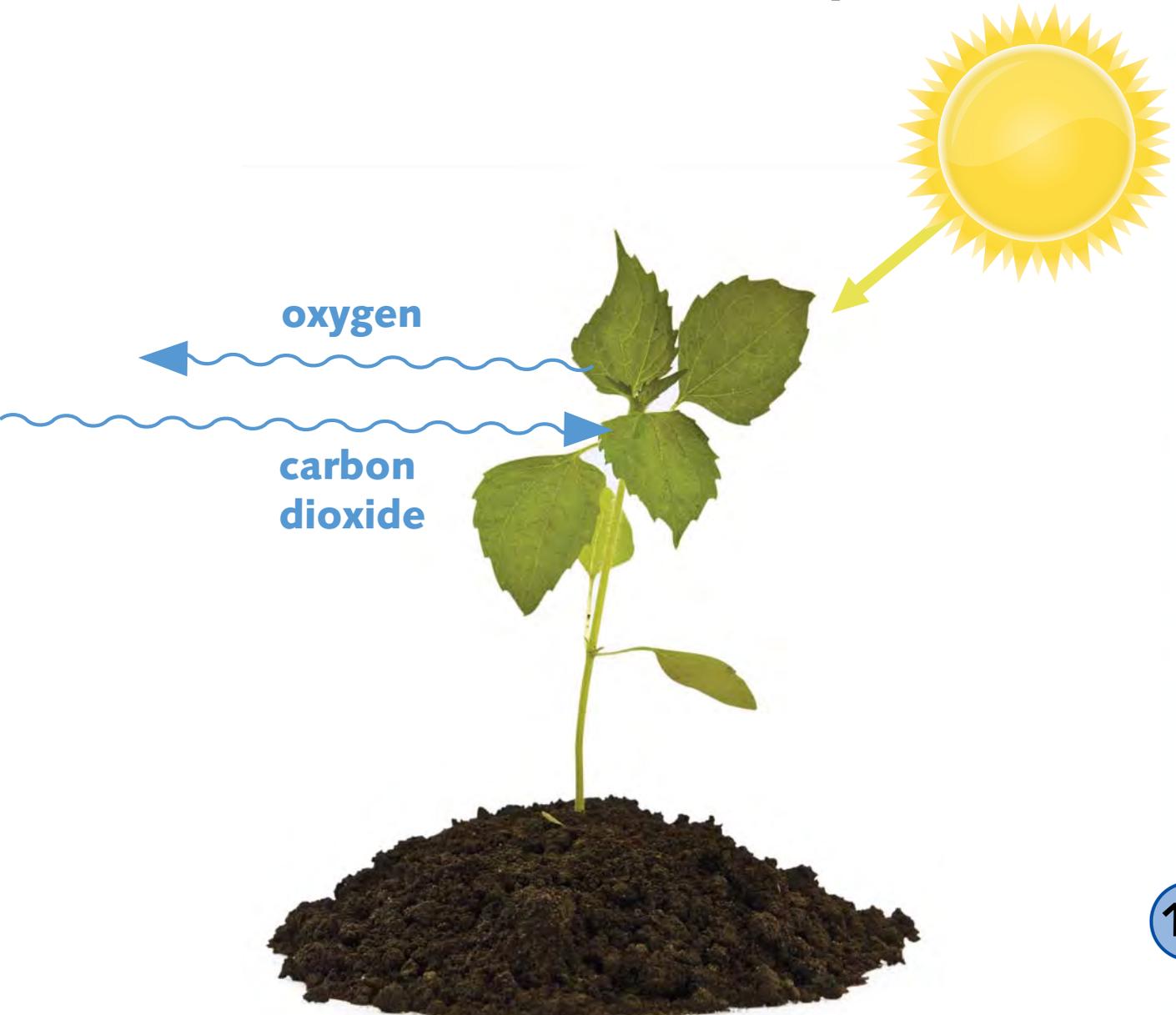
People and animals need to breathe in the oxygen plants release during photosynthesis. And plants need to use the carbon dioxide people and animals breathe out.



oxygen

carbon dioxide

How Animals and Plants Help Each Other



Animals and people rely on plants for food. They also need oxygen from plants. Without plants and photosynthesis, animals and people would not survive.







1. What do plants need to make their own food?
2. Why are plants important to life on Earth?
3. How do the gases that animals and plants produce benefit each other?

Glossary

absorb (ab-ZORB): to take in liquid or gas

carbon dioxide (KAR-buhn dye-OK-side): a gas that people and animals breathe out as waste

chlorophyll (KLOR-uh-fill): the stuff in plants that causes the green color and traps light energy from the Sun for photosynthesis

energy (en-ur-jee): the ability to do work or make changes happen

ingredients (in-GREE-dee-uhnts): things that go into a recipe to make something else

oxygen (OK-suh-juhn): a gas that plants make and that people and animals breathe in

photosynthesis (foh-toh-SIN-thuh-siss): the way green plants make their own food

process (PRAH-sess): a series of steps to make or do something

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Websites

www.exploringnature.org/db/detail.php?dbID=32&detID=1208

www.ftexploring.com/me/photosyn1.html

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www.realtrees4kids.org/sixeight/letseat.htm

About the Author

As a child, Julie K. Lundgren lived near Lake Superior where she once grew a giant turnip and had many pets. Her interest in plants and animals led her to a degree in biology. She lives in Minnesota with her family.



Comprehension & Extension:

- Summarize:

What is photosynthesis? How do plants make their own food?

- Text to Self Connection:

*Have you ever made your own food?
What did you make and how did you make it?*

- Extension: *Draw and Write*

*Draw a picture to show how photosynthesis works.
Write labels or captions to describe your drawing.*

Sight Words I Used:

**from
make
other
they
with**

Vocabulary Check:

Use glossary words in a sentence.

Life Science **PLANTS**



Have you ever wondered about the science all around us? Plants grow and change, the Sun rises to warm the Earth, and matter changes from one form to another. Investigate Life, Physical, Earth, and Technology science topics with Rourke's *My Science Library*. This library explores NSTA science standards with engaging text and colorful images to support readers from kindergarten to third grade. Are you ready to investigate?

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