



Building Healthier
Communities



First Grade: Six Plant Parts Lesson

Objectives

- Students can identify the parts of the plant and find examples of different plant parts in the garden.
- Students can compare and contrast different parts of the plant found in the garden.

Standards

1-LS1-1. Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.

Materials

- Examples of the 6 plant parts (can use diagram or an actual plant from the garden)
- Clipboards
- Paper (ideally with plant parts scavenger hunt printed) and writing utensils
- plants to observe in the garden

Vocab: seed, roots, stem, leaves, flower, fruit

Timeframe: 45 mins to an hour

Lesson Description

1. Upon entering the garden, gather class in a circle. Start with a check-in question. This can be anything! Have students practice introducing themselves: "My name is ____ and my favorite ____ is ____." (or whatever the question is)
 - a. Tip: pass an object around the circle, and only the person who is holding this "magic object" is allowed to speak.
2. Review garden rules and expectations that have been established (or, establish them).
 - a. Examples: walking feet only, pick things only when invited, use all tools properly and safely, respect teachers and others, stay within certain area, clean up after ourselves, have good listening skills, treat environment kindly, etc etc
3. Introduce the lesson. Talk about the 6 plant parts. It is helpful to have a diagram handy or an actual plant with you to reference!
4. Teach students the "plant parts dance." (this is optional, but very fun and helps solidify information for younger students). Walk them through and have them act out the different parts of the plant. Start curled on the ground like a seed. You have been planted and you

are happy and tucked in under the soil. Then, some rains come, and you know it is time to put down your roots! (reach your fingertips out from your toes like little roots growing into the ground). Sunshine makes you want to stretch out- so you start to grow your stem! (start slowly standing up). Next, your leaves (stand up a little more and extend arms out to make leaves). Next, you make a beautiful flower! (stand all the way up now, put hands on side of face with fingers out like a flower). And lastly you make a fruit from your flower (hold arms in front of you like holding a ball to be a fruit).

- a. Do this a few times so they remember it. Ask them if they have any songs or motions they want to add to make it theirs. You can also mention that once the fruit drops to the ground or is eaten, the seeds fall to the ground too, and start the dance over. (for example, an apple has seeds; if you drop that apple core on the ground, those seeds will be on the ground, etc)
5. Split class into pairs and give each pair a clipboard with the plant parts scavenger hunt attached. Allow class to explore the garden! Each pair should find examples of the plant parts around the garden and draw them in the space provided.
 - a. Wander around the garden with the students and answer any questions they have.

Wrap-up

6. When most pairs are done, gather the class back into a circle and debrief. Ask each pair to share one thing that they found in the garden from their scavenger hunt sheet.
 - a. Be encouraging and excited! Ask them questions. What was the coolest thing they found? Why do they think that is? What are they wondering?

Check for Understanding

7. Review. Do the plant parts dance again and see if the students can do it by themselves. Hold up or point to plant parts and see if they can name them.
8. Clean up, gather all materials, thank them for being there. Head back to classroom.

Extensions/Adaptations

-if you do not want to use paper, simply have the students find and collect each plant part instead of drawing them.

-you can have students create their own plant on the ground from the different parts they have found. This doubles both as a creative activity that the students can then share with the class when everyone gathers up again, and as a check for understanding.

-Encourage students to draw and label their own plant diagram.

-Challenge students to see how many different types of each part they can find around the garden.

*Note: this lesson can be adapted in complexity for any grade level!

Resources

*See following pages for plant diagram and plant part scavenger hunt examples

Plant Parts Diagram

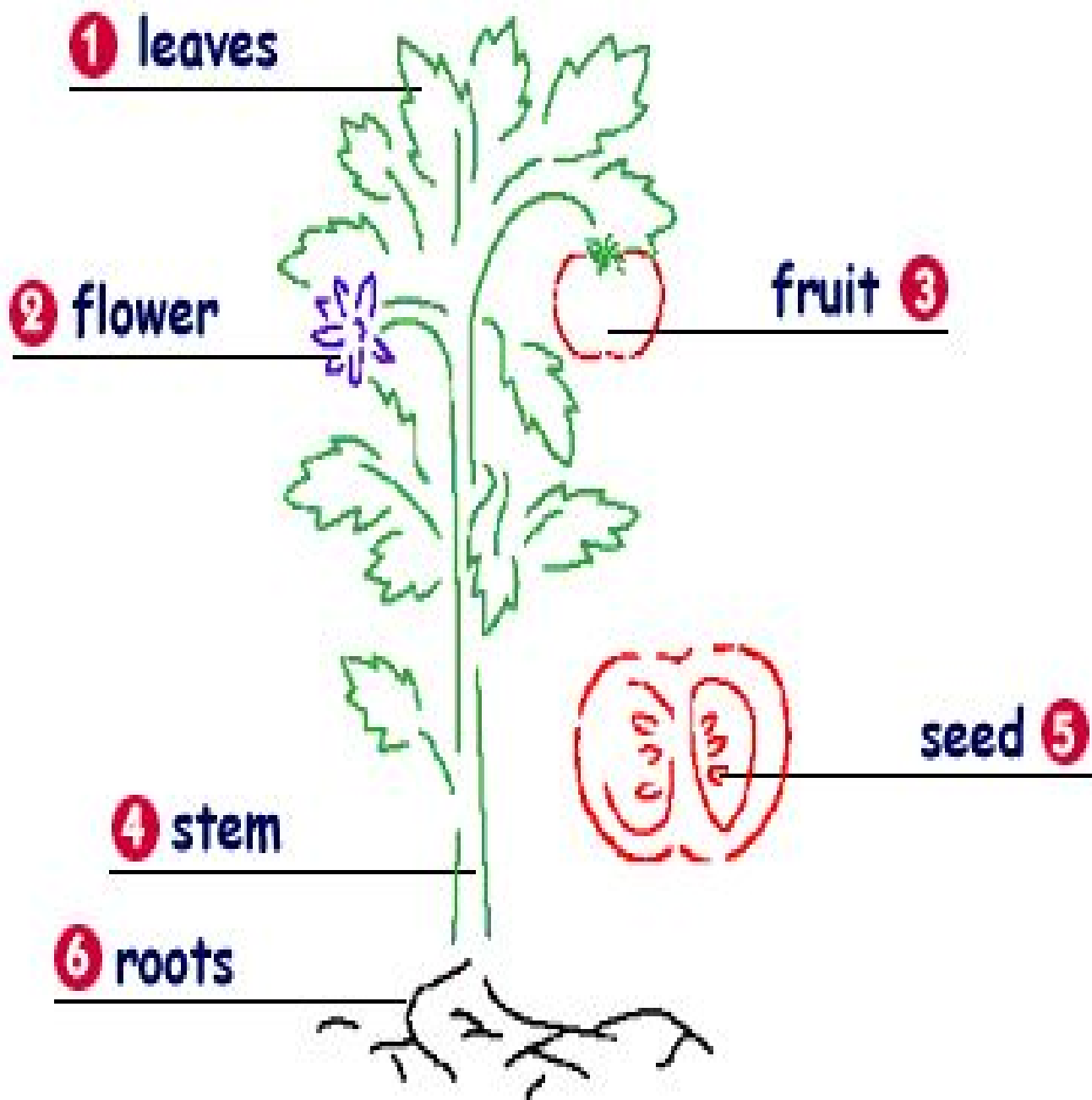


Photo from: <https://www.quora.com/Write-the-six-part-of-plants>

Plant Parts Scavenger Hunt







ROOT 	STEM 
LEAF 	FLOWER 
FRUIT 	SEED 

Table from: commonthreadsfarm.org