

How Does My Garden Grow?

by David Tunkin

Overview

Use this book to help children understand what plants need to grow.

Literacy Focus *Word Count: 73 words*

High Frequency Words

does, grow, have, help, my, need, take, use

Content Words

soil, garden, plants, roots, water, sunlight, food

Reinforcing Decoding Skills

- **Initial Consonants:** *h* (*help, have, how*)
- **Vowel Diphthongs:** *oi* (*soil*)

Print Conventions

- Understanding that text is read from left to right

Comprehension/Thinking Skills

- Identifying main ideas and details
- Summarizing main ideas
- Relating information to prior knowledge

Text Features

- Bold-faced type
- Labels

Writing/Speaking and Listening

- Labeling parts of a plant
- Sharing understanding of plant structure
- Discussing the function of parts of plants

Observe/Assess

See Oral Reading Records on page 179.

Science Focus

Content and Thinking Skills

- Understanding that plants need soil, water, and sunlight to grow
- Identifying roots and their functions
- Understanding the role of sunlight and water in a plant's life

Background Information

Plant parts are specially adapted to meet the life needs of plants. Roots anchor the plant in the ground and take in water and minerals. Stems transport nutrients and support the plant. Leaves use sunlight to make food for the plant. By considering the ways in which plants meet their needs, children can begin to understand that all living

things have basic life needs and they meet these needs in a variety of ways.

Correlation to National Standards Life Science

- Characteristics of Organisms

See Standards Chart on page 206.

Literacy Focus

Set the Scene

Ask children to describe plants they have seen. Encourage them to share any experiences they may have had in caring for plants. Ask:

Have you ever planted seeds?

How do you take care of plants?

Read and Discuss

Cover and Title Page

Show children the cover and title page. Point to the title and author's name as you read them. Ask children what they think this book will be about.

Pages 2-7

Have children look at the photographs and discuss what is happening in each. Then read the text with children, using your finger to illustrate reading text from left to right. Point out the words in darker type and discuss with children why these words are important.

Page 8

Read the text together. Invite children to use the pictures and picture labels to summarize what plants need.

Respond

- Have children list words in the book that begin with *h* (*help, have, how*). Ask them to use the words in sentences.
- Write the word *soil* on the board. Read the following words aloud and ask children to say *soil* each time they hear the same vowel sound that they hear in the word *soil*. Then write the words on the board and have children underline the *oi*.

○		○		○
		soil		
boil	grow	cook	oink	
boat	coin	foil	pour	

- Write the words *garden, plants, roots, soil, sunlight, and water* on cards. Make up a sentence using each word, but leave a blank for the word on the card. Write each sentence and have a volunteer choose a card, hold it up, and say the word to fill in the blank.



Content Words

Activity Master, page 76

Use the Activity Master, page 76, to discuss how plants grow. Have children use the words to label each part of the picture.



English Language Learners

Some children may be unfamiliar with the words used for plant parts. Bring a plant into class and remove it from its pot. Write the words *roots, stems, and leaves* on the board. Have children point to and name each of these plant parts.

Science Focus

Science Concept

Plants have basic needs and structures that help them meet their needs.

Activities

Nature Walk

Take a walk with children around the school grounds or a park to observe plants. Invite children to describe different plants and talk about the way they grow.

Plant Needs

Use three plants and label one *Sunlight and Water*, one *Water Only*, and one *Sunlight Only*. Place the *Water Only* plant in a dark closet. Place the other two in a sunny window. Water only the *Sunlight and Water* and *Water Only* plants. Have children observe the plants for one or two weeks. Discuss the health of the plants. Help children conclude that two of the plants did not have all their needs met.

People and Plants

Have children compare themselves to plants. What do they need that a plant needs? How are their needs different from those of plants? Record their ideas on a Venn diagram.



Plant Needs

Activity Master, page 77

Have children draw a plant on the Activity Master, page 77. Ask them to write a sentence about what the plant needs.

Name _____

How Does My Garden Grow?

Use the words in the Word Bank to label the picture. Circle the parts of the picture that shows what plants need.

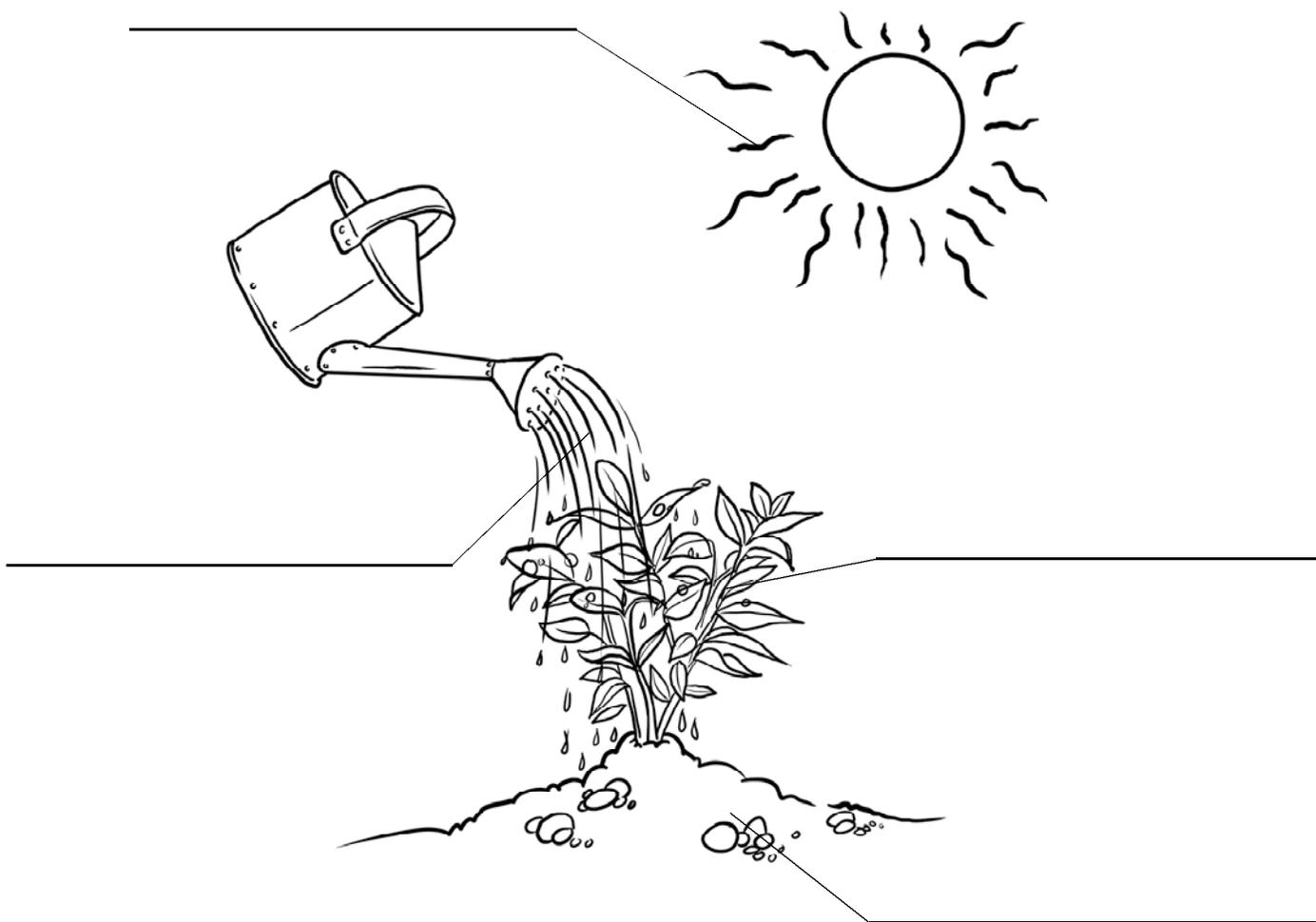
Word Bank

plant

soil

water

sunlight



Name _____

How Does My Garden Grow?

Draw a plant in a garden. Write a sentence telling what the plant needs.

The plant in my garden needs _____
