

Did you know? Fun Facts about Plants

- ☞ The oldest living thing on earth can be found in the Mojave Desert.
- ☞ This flowering shrub is called the **creosote bush** and it is about 50 feet in diameter.
 - ☞☞ It is about 12,000 years old.
 - ☞☞ To give you a sense of its age, this shrub has approximately been around since before the wheel and writing were invented³.
- ☞ The various parts of a plant and its functions: (<http://www.plantdoctor.org/kidscrops/plantpartgame1.pdf>)
 - Roots-gather nutrients and water from the soil.
 - Stems-transport nutrients and water to different parts of the plant, allowing the plant to grow.
 - Leaves-gather energy from the sun. They turn nutrients into food for the plant.
 - Flowers-turn into "fruits" and the seeds they bear. They help the plant reproduce.
 - Seeds-take root and grow into new plants.

Connections

Water	Bees	Animals	Food	People
<p>The plants in your school garden need to have about 1-2 inches of water per week¹.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>Water your planted seeds more often when it is hot during the summer months¹.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>There are also plants (such as desert cacti) that have adapted to living in dry conditions².</p>	<p>Each tassel on a corn plant releases as many as 5 million grains of pollen³.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>Bees pollinate plants. (Please refer to 'bees' page).</p>	<p>Many animals eat the parts of plants that humans throw away (i.e. Almond hulls, cotton seeds, etc.) They help to recycle the plant parts.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>Composted or aged manure, from plant eating animals, or herbivores, help plants to grow!</p>	<p>Asparagus plants are perennials. The same asparagus plant will produce spears year after year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>1 asparagus plant may produce enough for you to eat for about 25 years³!</p>	<p>There are plants that produce yummy and nutritious fruits and vegetables for us to eat.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p>There are also plants, termed ornamental plants, which we enjoy to look at.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☞☞</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">There are also strange flowers that make us wonder:</p> <p>The largest flower--<i>rafflesia arnoldi</i>-- in the world (Sumatra island of Indonesia) grows to be about 1-6 feet, weighs about 15 pounds, and smells really bad to attract flies⁴.</p>