

The Plant Life Cycle

Week 14 — Monday | Plant Growth Process

Reading Time

Every plant starts as a tiny seed. A seed has a baby plant inside and a small food supply. When the seed gets water and warmth, it begins to grow. This is called germination.

First, a small root grows down into the soil. Then a tiny shoot grows up toward the sunlight. This little shoot is called a sprout. The sprout unfurls its first small leaves. Now it is a seedling.

The seedling keeps growing taller and stronger. It adds more leaves. Its stem gets thicker. Eventually, it becomes a mature plant. A mature plant can make flowers and seeds. Those seeds can fall to the ground and start the whole cycle again!

Reading Questions

1. What two things does a seed need to start growing?

2. What is germination?

3. What grows first from a seed: the root or the shoot?

4. What is the difference between a sprout and a seedling?

Vocabulary Grid

Write a definition or draw a picture for each word.

Seed

Germination

Sprout

Seedling

Mature

Life Cycle

Sequence the Life Cycle

Number each stage from 1 (first) to 6 (last).

Order	Stage	Draw a Picture
	A small seed sits in the soil	
	A mature plant with flowers	
	A root grows down	
	A sprout grows up	
	A seedling with leaves	
	The plant makes seeds	

True or False — Circle Your Answer

- ☐ 1. A seed has a baby plant inside it.
- ☐ 2. The shoot grows before the root.
- ☐ 3. Germination means the seed starts to grow.
- ☐ 4. A seedling is bigger than a mature plant.
- ☐ 5. Seeds need water and warmth to grow.
- ☐ 6. The life cycle starts over when new seeds are made.

Draw Each Stage

Seed	Sprout	Seedling
Mature Plant	Flowers	Seeds

Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: seed water germination sprout seedling mature

1. Every plant starts as a tiny _____.

2. A seed needs _____ and warmth to grow.

3. When a seed starts to grow, it is called _____.

4. The first thing to grow up is a tiny _____.

5. A _____ has small leaves and is still growing.

6. A _____ plant is full grown and can make flowers.

Find the Stages Around You

Look around your home or yard. Find plants at different stages!

Stage	Where did you find it?	Describe it
A seed		
A sprout or seedling		
A mature plant		
A flower or seed pod		

Experiment Preview

Coming Wednesday: We will plant seeds in cups and watch them grow! Bring some dirt and a seed to class.

Think about it: How many days do you think it takes for a seed to sprout?

Write your guess and why:
