

Seed Dispersal

Week 15 — Friday | *How Seeds Travel*

Reading Time

Once a flower makes seeds, the seeds need to move away from the parent plant. If seeds just drop under the parent plant, all the new plants will crowd each other. They need space, sunlight, and water to grow. So plants have found clever ways to send their seeds traveling.

Some seeds travel by wind. Dandelion seeds have fluffy parachutes that float in the breeze. Maple seeds have little wings that spin as they fall. Wind seeds are light and small so they can fly far.

Some seeds travel by animals. Burrs have tiny hooks that catch on animal fur. The animal walks around with the seed stuck to it. Other seeds are inside yummy fruits. An animal eats the fruit and drops the seed far away.

Some seeds travel by water. Coconuts can float across the ocean. Some seeds have spongy pockets full of air that help them float. When they wash up on a beach, they can grow into new plants. And some seeds just pop! A seed pod dries out and bursts, throwing the seeds far and wide.

Reading Questions

1. Why do seeds need to move away from the parent plant?

2. Name one way seeds travel by wind. Give an example.

3. How do burrs travel by animals?

4. How does a coconut travel? Where might it end up?

Vocabulary Grid

Write a definition or draw a picture for each word.

Dispersal

Parachute

Burr

Seed Pod

Parachute

Parent Plant

Sort: How Does the Seed Travel?

Seed	Wind	Animal	Water	Popping
Dandelion seed				
Coconut				
Bur from a burr plant				
Maple seed (helicopter)				
Apple seed inside a fruit				
Cocklebur with hooks				
Pea pod seed				
Willow cotton seed				

True or False — Circle Your Answer

- ☐ 1. Seeds need to move away from the parent plant.
- ☐ 2. Dandelion seeds have fluffy parachutes.
- ☐ 3. All seeds travel by the wind.
- ☐ 4. Burrs have hooks that catch on fur.
- ☐ 5. Coconuts can travel across the ocean.
- ☐ 6. Seeds that pop need an animal to help them.

Match the Seed to Its Method

Seed	Match to Method
Dandelion	_____
Coconut	_____
Bur	_____
Pea pod	_____

Methods: Wind / Water / Animal / Popping

Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: wind animal water hooks parachute fruit

1. Dandelion seeds float on the _____.

2. An _____ carries a bur on its fur.

3. Coconuts float across the _____.

4. Burrs have tiny _____ that stick to fur.

5. A dandelion seed looks like a tiny _____.

6. Apple seeds are inside an _____.

Design a Seed

Imagine: You can design a seed with its own way of traveling. Draw your seed and label how it moves.



My seed travels by: _____

It can travel far because:



Science Journal

This week I learned about flowers and seeds...



The coolest thing about seeds is...



Week Review

Rate your week (circle one for each):

I understood pollination: / /

I liked the flower dissection: / /

I feel ready for the next topic: / /