

How Plants Function

READ ALOUD PASSAGE

Roots do not supply a plant's bulk, but they have three essential jobs: taking in water, taking in a few chemical elements, and anchoring the plant and the soil. Leaves lose water constantly through the same pores that let carbon dioxide in. Wilting usually means the roots cannot keep up.

Stems hold the leaves up where the light is. That is why trees are tall and crowded plants race upward. Stems carry two-way traffic at the same time: water and elements up, food made in the leaves down.

Every part of a plant depends on both of the others. That is what makes a plant a system.

Activity 1: Word Sort Challenge

Sort the words in the box. Write each word under the right heading.

WORD BANK

tall upward essential stem race roots constantly carry down pores
anchor crowded

Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives	Adverbs

Activity 2: Match the Sentence Parts

Draw a line from each sentence start to the ending that makes sense.

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| 1. When the roots cannot keep up, | ● | ● A. stems grow tall. |
| 2. Because leaves need light, | ● | ● B. they do important work. |
| 3. If a plant loses too much water, | ● | ● C. its leaves droop. |
| 4. Although roots are hidden underground, | ● | ● D. the plant wilts. |

Activity 3: Build a Paragraph

Here is the first sentence of a paragraph. Write two sentences with facts that support it. Then write a last sentence that wraps it up.

TOPIC SENTENCE

Each part of a plant has a job to do.

Supporting detail 1:

Supporting detail 2:

Concluding sentence:
