

Project glossary

anchor

To fix firmly in position.

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anther

A male part of a flower where pollen grains are made.

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blade

The large, flat surface of a leaf.

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bud

A part of a plant that develops into a flower or leaf.

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carbon dioxide

A colourless gas in the air that plants use to make food.

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carpel

A flower's female reproductive organ.

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epiphyte

A plant that grows on another plant or object with aerial roots that take in water from the air. Epiphytes are also called air plants.

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fibrous root system

Thin roots with root hairs that grow out from a plant's stem just under the soil's surface.

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filament

A male part of a flower that supports an anther.

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flower

A part of some plants. It is needed for plants to reproduce by making seeds that will grow into new offspring.



fruit

A part of some plants that develops from the carpel of a flower. It usually has one or more seeds inside.

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germination

The process where a seeds starts to grow.

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growth

The process in the life cycle of all animals and plants where they develop and increase in size.

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lateral root

A root that grows sideways.

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leaf

A part of a plant that is usually green and has a flat blade. It makes food for the plant through the process of photosynthesis and moves water through the plant through the process of transpiration.

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life cycle

A series of changes that happen during the life of a living thing.

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nectar

A sweet liquid that plants make to encourage animals to visit their flowers.

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nutrient

A substance that plants and animals need to grow and survive.

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offspring

An animal’s young or new plants grown from a plant’s seeds.

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petal

A part of a flower that is brightly coloured and scented to attract insects.

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phloem

A tube that carries food made in the leaves to the parts of a plant where it is needed.



photosynthesis

The process where leaves make food for a plant.

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pollen

Grains produced by the anther on top of the stamen in a flower.

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pollination

The process where pollen is transferred by an animal or the wind from the anther of one flower to the carpel of another flower of the same type.

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pollinator

An animal that transfers pollen for the process of pollination.

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pore

A tiny hole on the surface of a plant or animal.

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reproduction

The process of producing offspring.

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root

A part of a plant that is usually underground. It takes in water and nutrients and anchors the plant securely in the ground.

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seed

A small object produced by a plant that will grow into a new plant if the conditions are right for germination.

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seed dispersal

The movement of seeds by animals, wind, explosion or water away from the parent plant.

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seedling

A young plant that has grown from a seed.

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sepal

A green, leaf-shaped part of a plant that protects a developing flower.



stalk

A thin stem that joins leaves, flowers or fruit to the stem of a plant.

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stamen

A flower’s male reproductive organ.

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stem

A part of a plant that supports the leaves and flowers and usually grows upwards toward the sunlight. It contains vessels that transport water, nutrients and food around the plant.

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taproot system

A large, primary root with smaller, lateral roots and root hairs.

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transpiration

The process where water is lost through pores on the underside of the leaves, which pulls more water up through the plant from the roots.

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vascular plant

A plant with vessels or tubes that transport water, nutrients and food.

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vein

Any one of the thin tubes that can be seen on the surface of a leaf.

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vessel

A tube that transports liquids.

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xylem

A tube that moves water and nutrients from the roots around the plant.



Scientific terms glossary

compare

To look at two or more things closely and see what is the same or different.

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conclusion

An explanation of what has been found out using the data collected.

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control

A variable that is not changed in an investigation so that only the effects of changing another variable are observed.

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data

Collected information or facts, including numbers, words, measurements or observations.

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describe

To say aloud or write how something is done or what something is like.

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diagram

A drawing with labels that shows the parts of something.

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equipment

An object or objects that are needed for a particular purpose, such as a hand lens and digital microscope.

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fair test

A test or investigation in which only one variable is changed each time measurements are made.

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investigation

An activity that involves a person studying a subject or problem carefully to learn facts or answer a question. An investigation includes a planning, doing, recording and reviewing stage.



measurement

The exact amount of something, such as the length, height, mass or volume in standard units.

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method

A set of instructions or steps to do a particular task.

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observe

To watch or look at something carefully.

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prediction

A statement made by a person where they say what they think will happen in the future, using their knowledge or experiences.

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question

Something we ask using words like how, what, where, when, who and why.

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record

To write down data, such as numbers, words, measurements or observations in different ways, such as lists, tables, charts or labelled diagrams.

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research

To study a subject to discover new facts or information.

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results

The data collected from an investigation or test.

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table

A way of recording data in rows and columns.

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variable

A factor, such as an object or condition, that changes during an investigation.

