

# Year 2 Science: Plants & Living Things and their Habitats

We will be learning about plants. We will observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants. We will also **investigate** (find out) and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow, stay healthy and **survive** (stay alive). We will also **investigate** living things and their habitats, exploring and comparing the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats and investigate why they have chosen to live there.



All plants have four basic needs:

**Air** to breathe.

**Light** and **water** to carry out photosynthesis (make food). A suitable temperature to grow (**warmth**).



**Pollination** is when pollen is moved from flower to flower to allow a plant to reproduce.

**Germination** is when a plant starts to grow from a seed.

When we carry out an **experiment** we need to make sure it is a **fair test**. We use a **control**. This is when we do not change anything on one of the 'objects' we are testing.



## Living Things and Habitats:

**Habitat** - The natural home or environment of an animal or plant.

**Microhabitat** - A very specific, small home environment for plants, animals and insects e.g. ponds, under a stone, a pile of logs.

**Food chain** - This is the order in which living things depend on each other for food.

**Reproduce** - This is how living things - plants and animals - create offspring or seeds and is part of the **lifecycle**.

**Predator** - This is an animal / insect that naturally preys on other animals for food to survive.

## Plant terms and definitions:

**Deciduous** - A tree or plant that sheds its' leaves every year

**Evergreen** - A tree that keeps its leaves all year round.

**Photosynthesis** - the way **green** plants make food by combining water and sunlight.

**Flower** - This is the bloom or blossom of a plant. It is the part that produces seeds.

**Stem** - This is the part of a plant that supports the flower.

**Roots** - These are found in the soil and take up water and nutrients (food) for the plant. They also anchor the plant to the ground.

**Leaves** - Found on the stem of plants and flowers. They help plants to carry out photosynthesis.

## Did you know!

The average strawberry has over 200 seeds. It is the only fruit that has its seeds on the outside!

It's thought the Bowthorpe Oak in Lincolnshire may be one of the oldest oak trees in England, with an estimated age of more than **1,000 years**.

