

# How Does Your Garden Grow?

Think about a garden. It is filled with plants that have flowers. How did they get there? What makes a flower grow?

First, there is a seed. The seed is hard on the outside. That keeps what is inside nice and safe. Inside the seed is a baby plant. There is also food for the baby plant.

Next, the seed is put in the ground. Water and sun make the ground wet and warm. The food inside the seed gets soft. The baby plant uses it. Soon, the baby plant grows roots. The roots are like arms that reach down into the ground to look for more food and water.

The food and water make the baby plant grow. Then, it can push out of the top of the seed. The baby plant goes up, up, up to get out of the ground. The roots stay down in the ground. They find more food and water for the plant.

Now the plant is above the ground. It is not a baby plant. It starts to make its own food. Its leaves take in sun and air. This turns into more food for the plant.

After the plant grows, it makes a flower. Then, the flower makes new seeds. Those seeds can grow new plants. Soon, there is a whole garden of plants and flowers!

**Questions**

1. What are the words in the text that help you know the order in which a plant grows?
2. What happens before the baby plant can use the food inside the seed?
3. How are roots like arms?
4. How does the seed take care of the baby plant? Use details from the text to support your answer.

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**Vocabulary List**

Each of the vocabulary words below are used in the reading passage. As you read the passage, pay attention to context clues that suggest the word's meaning.

1. plants
2. ground
3. roots

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**Context Clues**

Using context clues from the sentences in the passage, underline the correct meaning of the word in boldface.

1) "It is filled with **plants** that have flowers."

a. trees, bushes, and greenery    b. rocks    c. books and papers    d. small animals

2) "the seed is put in the **ground**"

a. water    b. dirt    c. trash    d. round ball

3) "the baby plant grows **roots**"

a. tall and strong    b. flowers    c. part that is below the dirt    d. ears and legs