



Amazing Plant Bodies

Tiny to Gigantic



by Ellen Lawrence

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An Amazing Discovery

In 2006, scientist Steve Sillett climbed a very tall redwood tree.

At the top of the tree, he held one end of a tape measure to the tree's tip.

He let the other end drop to the ground.

Hundreds of feet below Steve, another scientist recorded the redwood's height.

The tape measure showed the tree was just over 379 feet (116 m) tall.

Steve had just climbed the tallest tree in the world!



Steve Sillett climbing a giant redwood tree



a redwood tree

The redwood tree that Steve climbed in 2006 is named Hyperion. At that time, it was the tallest tree in the world. In the future, however, an even taller tree might be discovered. Hyperion grows in Redwood National Park in California.



Statue of Liberty
305 feet 6 inches
(93 m) tall



Hyperion
379 feet (116 m) tall

Giant Plants, Tiny Plants

Plants can be tall, like a redwood tree, or short, like a daisy.

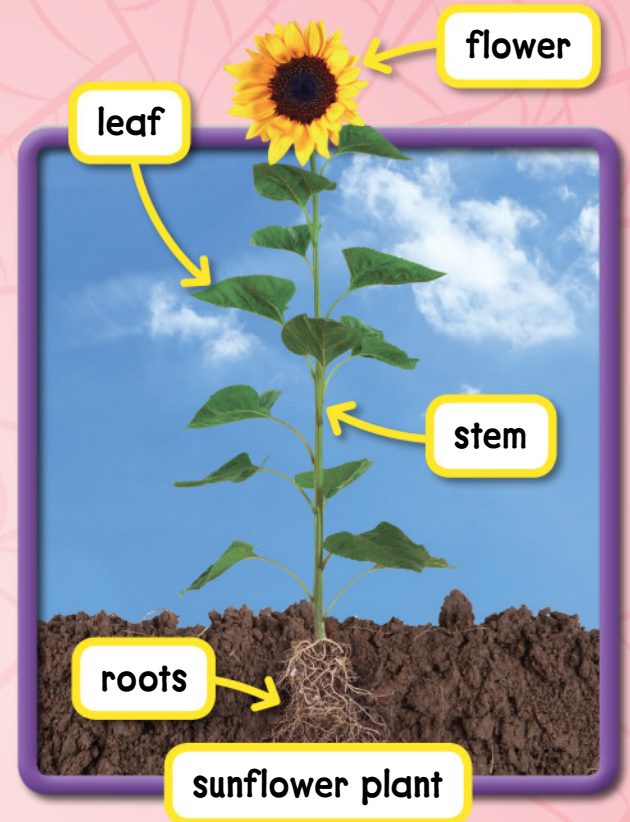
Whatever their size, most plants have the same parts.

They have roots that usually grow down into the soil.

They also have stems that connect their roots to their leaves.

Many plants also have flowers that make **seeds**, and some plants grow fruits.


All these plant parts come in many different shapes and sizes.



People eat the different parts of many plants. Which plant parts are these foods?

(The answers are on page 24.)





Giant sequoia
(sih-KWOI-uh) trees
have very thick stems,
or trunks. A sequoia named
the General Sherman tree has
a huge trunk. It would take
more than 20 adults holding
hands to make a circle
around its trunk.

trunk of General
Sherman tree

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Read More

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Learn More Online

To learn more about amazing plant bodies, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/Plant-ology

About the Author

Ellen Lawrence lives in the United Kingdom. Her favorite books to write are those about nature and animals. In fact, the first book Ellen bought for herself, when she was six years old, was the story of a gorilla named Patty Cake that was born in New York's Central Park Zoo.

Answers

Page 6: A carrot is the root of a plant. Lettuce is a type of leaf. An apple is a fruit.

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Amazing Plant Bodies

Tiny to Gigantic

The parts that make up each plant's body are the same—roots, stems, leaves, seeds, and often fruit and flowers. Yet plants come in a huge number of shapes and sizes. Look inside to learn about the purpose of each plant part. Along the way, you'll discover a plant with a stem that can hold enough water to fill 50 bathtubs, fruits that weigh more than 30 children, and other extreme plant parts!

Amazing Plant Bodies
Tiny to Gigantic

Cooking with Sunshine
How Plants Make Food

Freaky Plant Facts
Extreme Greens

From Bird Poop to Wind
How Seeds Get Around

Meat-Eating Plants
Toothless Wonders

Poison Petals
Don't Eat!

Prickly Plants
Stuck!

What Lily Gets from Bee
And Other Pollination Facts

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