Plant-ology
Water Plants
All Wet!
by Ellen Lawrence

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Lily Pads

It's a warm summer day.

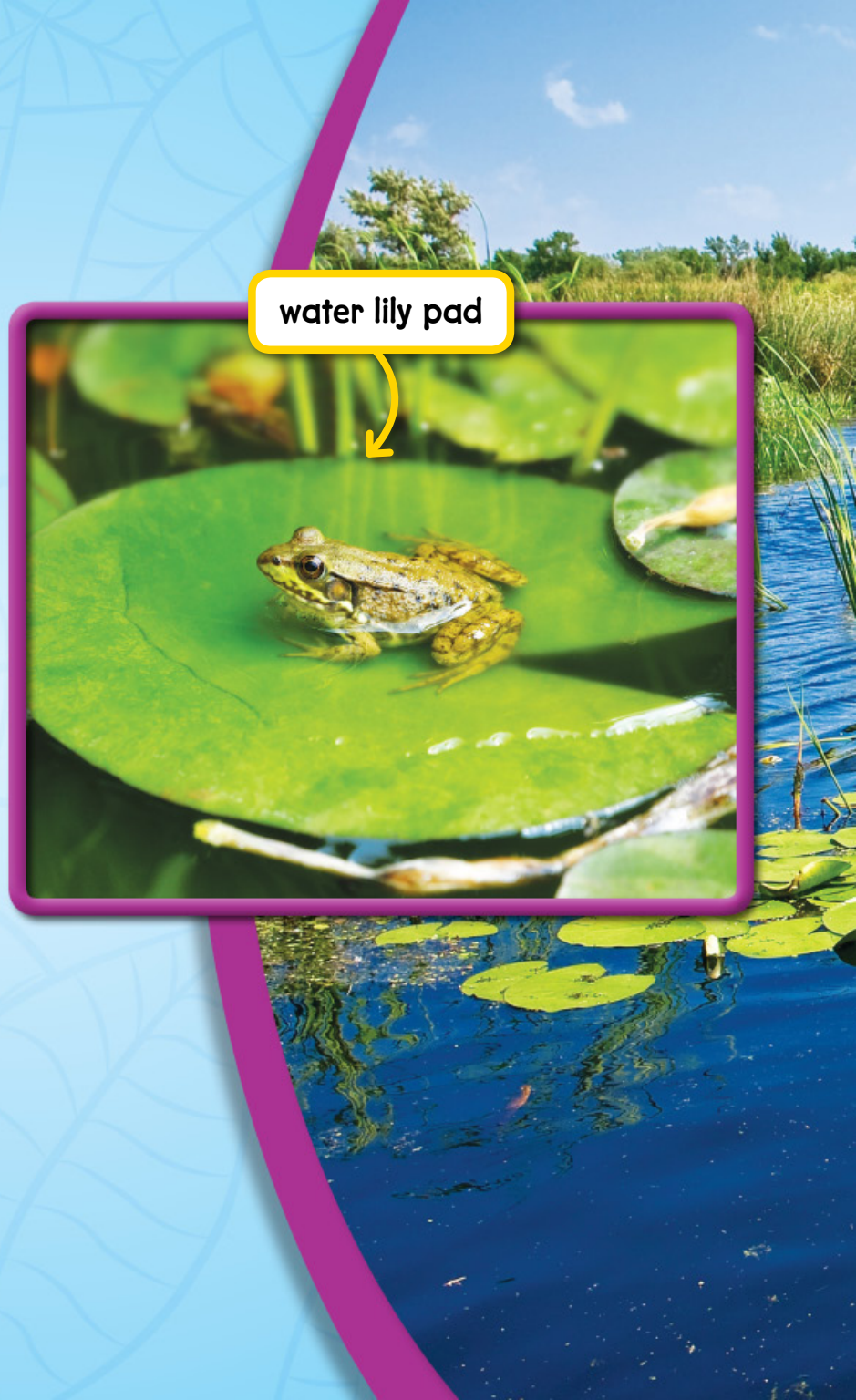
Round, green lily pads float on the surface of a pond.

A frog sits on one of the pads, waiting to catch an insect.

So what exactly are these green floating pads?

They are the leaves of water lilies.

Water lilies are plants that live and grow in water.



Plants that grow in ponds, lakes, rivers, and oceans are known as aquatic plants.
water lily pads

Plant Parts

There are many different kinds of aquatic plants.

Some water plants have leaves, stems, flowers, and **roots**—just like plants that grow on land.

The roots take in water and **nutrients** from the muddy soil at the bottom of ponds, lakes, and rivers.

Attached to the roots are long stems.

At the end of each stem is a leaf or flower that floats on top of the water.

Unlike the stiff stems of most land-growing plants, the stems of water lilies are soft and floppy. Why do you think this is?

(See answer on page 24.)

Skunk cabbage is a water plant that grows in wet soil at the edges of ponds and lakes. It gets its name because it smells like a skunk!
skunk cabbage

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Learn More Online

To learn more about about water plants, 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.

Answer for Page 6

A water lily's stems are held up, or supported, by the water. Unlike land plants, the stems of aquatic plants don't need to be stiff to hold up leaves and flowers.

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Water Plants

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What water plant has leaves that are big enough for a person to sit on? What ocean plant is a manatee's favorite food? What meat-eating pond plant traps tiny fish and insects? Look inside to find out. Along the way, you'll discover how these amazing plants survive in their watery homes, and why people and animals depend on them!

Amazing Plant Bodies
Tiny to Gigantic

Cooking with Sunshine
How Plants Make Food

Extreme Trees
And How They Got That Way

Freaky Plant Facts
Extreme Greens

From Bird Poop to Wind
How Seeds Get Around

Healing Plants
Medicine from Nature

How Plants Clean the Air
One Leaf at a Time

Meat-Eating Plants
Toothless Wonders

Poison Petals
Don't Eat!

Prickly Plants
Stuck!

Water Plants
All Wet!

What Lily Gets from Bee
And Other Pollination Facts

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