

# Experiment With Nature

## How a Tree Lives

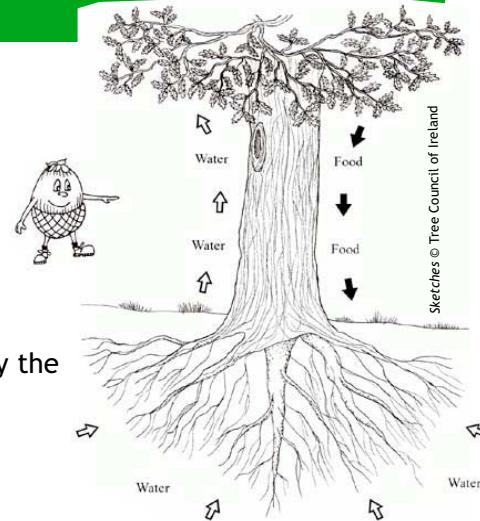
The **leaves** of the tree make **food**. They use **sunlight** as energy for this. Food is only made during the day.

The food moves **down** the tree through the bark to the roots.

Like all plants, trees need **water** to live. Water is taken from the soil by the **roots**.

It moves **up** the tree to the leaves through the wood of the trunk.

This experiment shows that plants need **light** and **water**.

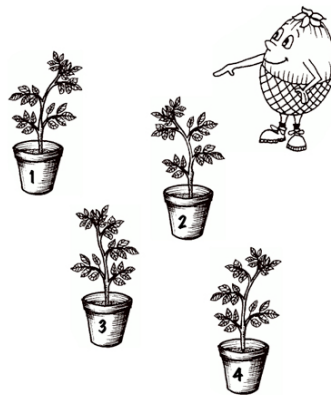


### What you need

Four healthy plants, for example busy lizzies or potatoes

A black plastic bag

Label the plants 1, 2, 3 and 4.



What happens to the part that has been cut off?

Is there moisture coming out of it?

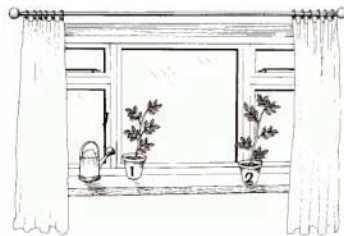


After three weeks, look at Plants 1, 2 and 3.

Place a tick (✓) on the chart to show the condition of each plant.

### What you do

◆ Leave Plant 1 on a window sill where it will get light. Water it whenever it needs it.



◆ Place Plant 2 on the window sill beside plant 1. Do not water it at all.

◆ Water Plant 3 well. Then put it in the black plastic bag. Seal the bag tightly.



◆ Leave Plants 1, 2 and 3 for three weeks.

◆ Use Plant 4 to show that water moves up the plant from the roots to the leaves.

◆ Cut the top off Plant 4. Lie the pot on its side over newspaper.

|         | Healthy | Yellow | Dying | Dead |
|---------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| Plant 1 |         |        |       |      |
| Plant 2 |         |        |       |      |
| Plant 3 |         |        |       |      |

Can you explain...

What happened to Plant 1?

Why?

What happened to Plant 2?

Why?

What happened to Plant 3?

Why?

The Tree Council of Ireland produce very useful and informative leaflets for children on their website and have kindly allowed us reproduce one here. Visit their site at [www.treecouncil.ie](http://www.treecouncil.ie) for more....!

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