How Plants Make Food

Name _____ Date _____

Nonfiction | 139 words | Cause and effect

I read it: ☆ to myself ☆ to a grown-up ☆ to a friend

1 Animals have to find their food, but green plants make their own. They use sunlight, water and air. This amazing process is called **photosynthesis.**

2 A plant's roots take in water from the soil. The water travels up the stem to the leaves. At the same time, tiny holes in the leaves let in a gas from the air called **carbon dioxide.**

3 Leaves are green because they contain chlorophyll. Chlorophyll catches energy from sunlight. The plant uses this energy to turn water and **carbon dioxide** into a kind of sugar. The sugar is the plant's food, and it helps the plant grow.

4 **Photosynthesis** also makes **oxygen,** which the plant lets out into the air. People and animals need **oxygen** to breathe. So every time you see a green leaf, remember that it is busy making food and helping you breathe!

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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How Plants Make Food: questions

Name _____ Date _____

I can find answers in the text. Look back at the text to check.

1 Circle the best answer

1. What three things does a plant use to make food?

(a) sunlight, water and air (b) seeds, flowers and bees (c) soil, rocks and wind

2. What makes leaves green?

(a) sugar (b) chlorophyll (c) oxygen

3. Why is photosynthesis important for people?

(a) it keeps us warm
(b) it makes rain fall
(c) it makes oxygen we breathe

2 True or false? Circle one.

Green plants make their own food.	True	False
Water enters a plant through its flowers.	True	False
Photosynthesis makes oxygen.	True	False

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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How Plants Make Food: words and writing

Name _____ Date _____

1 Match each word to its meaning. Draw a line.

photosynthesis ○	○ a gas in the air that people and animals breathe
carbon dioxide ○	○ the way plants make food from sunlight
oxygen ○	○ a gas in the air that plants take in

2 Write your answer in a full sentence.

What would happen to a plant kept in a dark closet? Use the text to explain.

3 Draw and label something you learned.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: How Plants Make Food

1 Circle the best answer

1. a) sunlight, water and air
2. b) chlorophyll
3. c) it makes oxygen we breathe

2 True or false

True: Green plants make their own food.

False: Water enters a plant through its flowers.

True: Photosynthesis makes oxygen.

3 Word meanings

photosynthesis: the way plants make food from sunlight

carbon dioxide: a gas in the air that plants take in

oxygen: a gas in the air that people and animals breathe

4 Written answer (sample)

It could not make food, because it needs sunlight for photosynthesis. It would stop growing and die.

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