

Nova's Garden Discovery

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants and understand what plants need for life and growth.

Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions using full sentences where possible.

Nova the barn owl loves to swoop over the meadow at dawn to observe the plants waking up. She knows that all living things have specific needs to stay healthy. Plants are amazing because they make their own food using sunlight, water, and air. Down in the soil, the roots act like little anchors, holding the plant steady while they drink up water and important nutrients. The stem is the plant's highway, carrying water from the roots up to the leaves and flowers. Nova often watches bees visiting the colourful petals. She knows that flowers are not just for decoration; they are busy factories for making seeds. To grow, a plant needs a suitable environment with plenty of light and the right temperature. If a plant is kept in a dark cupboard without water, it will soon wilt and stop growing. Nova believes that every garden is a classroom, showing us how life cycles work. By watching carefully, we can see how plants adapt to their surroundings to survive and thrive throughout the changing seasons.

Word bank: photosynthesis · nutrient · absorb · germination · pollination · environment

1. According to the text, what two things do the roots absorb from the soil? (2 marks)

2. What is the job of the stem within the plant? (2 marks)

3. Why does the author suggest that plants kept in a dark cupboard will wilt? (2 marks)

4. Why are flowers important for the plant's life cycle, other than looking pretty? (2 marks)

5. Nova says every garden is a 'classroom'. Do you agree with this? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a flowering plant and label the roots, stem, leaves, and flower.
Next to your drawing, draw a sun to show what the plant needs to grow.



Extension challenge: Research one plant that grows in the UK and write three facts about how it is adapted to survive in our climate.