

Plant Needs

Plants are living things. All living things must have certain things to live and grow. These things are called **basic needs**. What happens if a plant does not meet its basic needs? It may stop growing. It may turn brown or begin to droop. It may die.

Active Reading

Circle details that tell what happens when a plant does not meet its basic needs.

These plants are meeting their basic needs.

► What basic need is the boy giving the plants?

People can help plants meet their basic needs.

Wonderful Water

Plants need water. Do you know how they get it? A plant's roots take in water from the soil. Water is a basic need that helps plants live and grow.

Light and Airy

Do you wonder why people put some potted plants by windows? Plants need sunlight to grow. They also need air and water. Plants use air, water, and sunlight to make their own food.

Active Reading

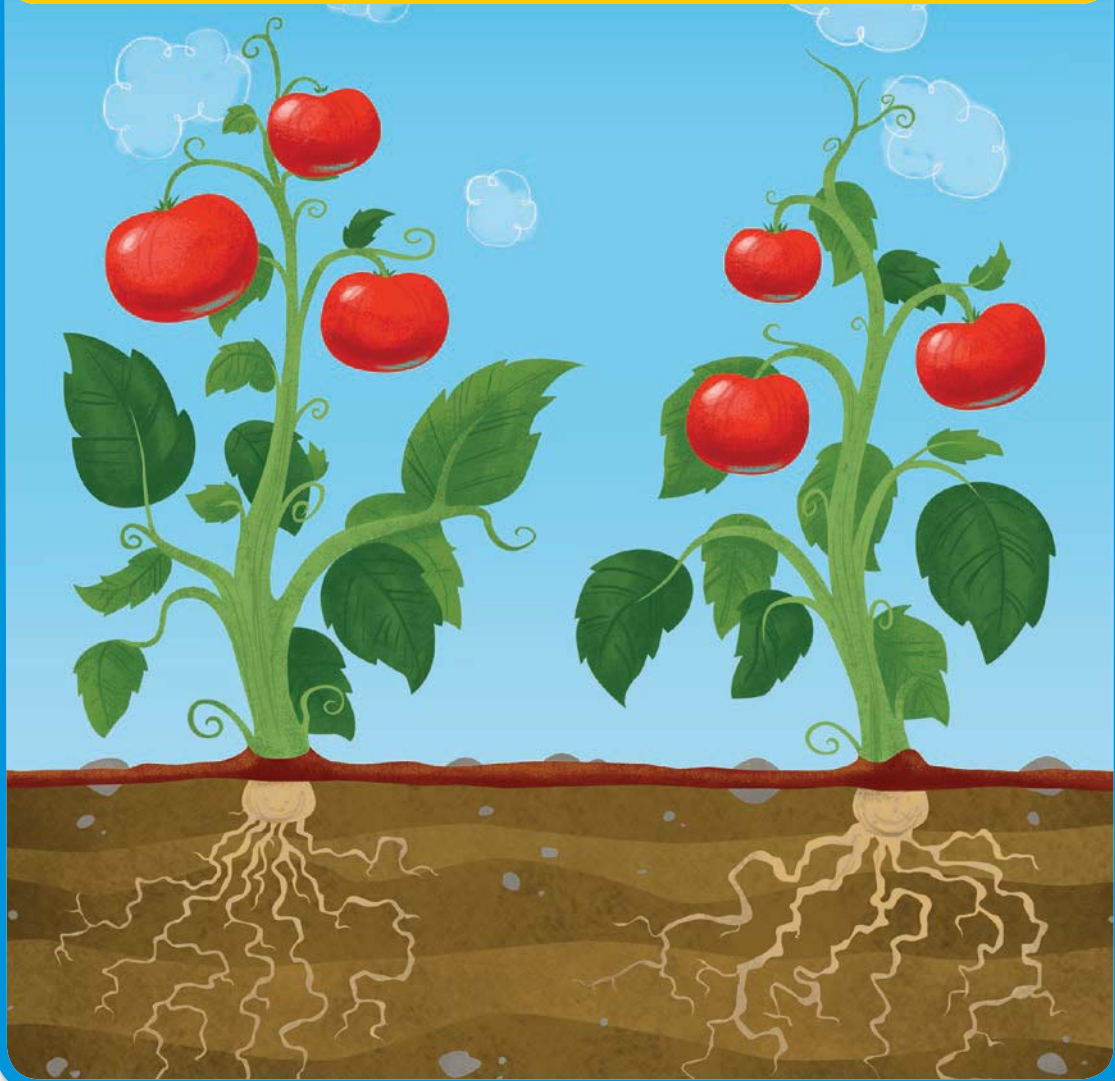
Underline the sentence that tells what plants need to make food.

How are these plants getting what they need?

Nutrients and Space

Plants need nutrients from the soil. **Nutrients** are substances that help plants grow. Growing plants need more nutrients and water. Their roots grow and spread to get more of these things. Plants need enough space for their roots, stems, and leaves to grow.

▶ Circle the place that shows that these tomato plants have space to grow.



Sum It Up >>

1 Mark It!

Cross out the thing that a plant does not need to grow.



2 Solve It!

Fill in the blank.

I am all around you
but you can't see me.
I am something all
living things need.

What am I?

3 Draw It!

Draw a picture of a plant. Label the picture to show that the plant is getting what it needs.



Name _____

Vocabulary Review

Find and circle the words in this word search.
Then answer the question.

sunlight

water

soil

air

space

nutrients

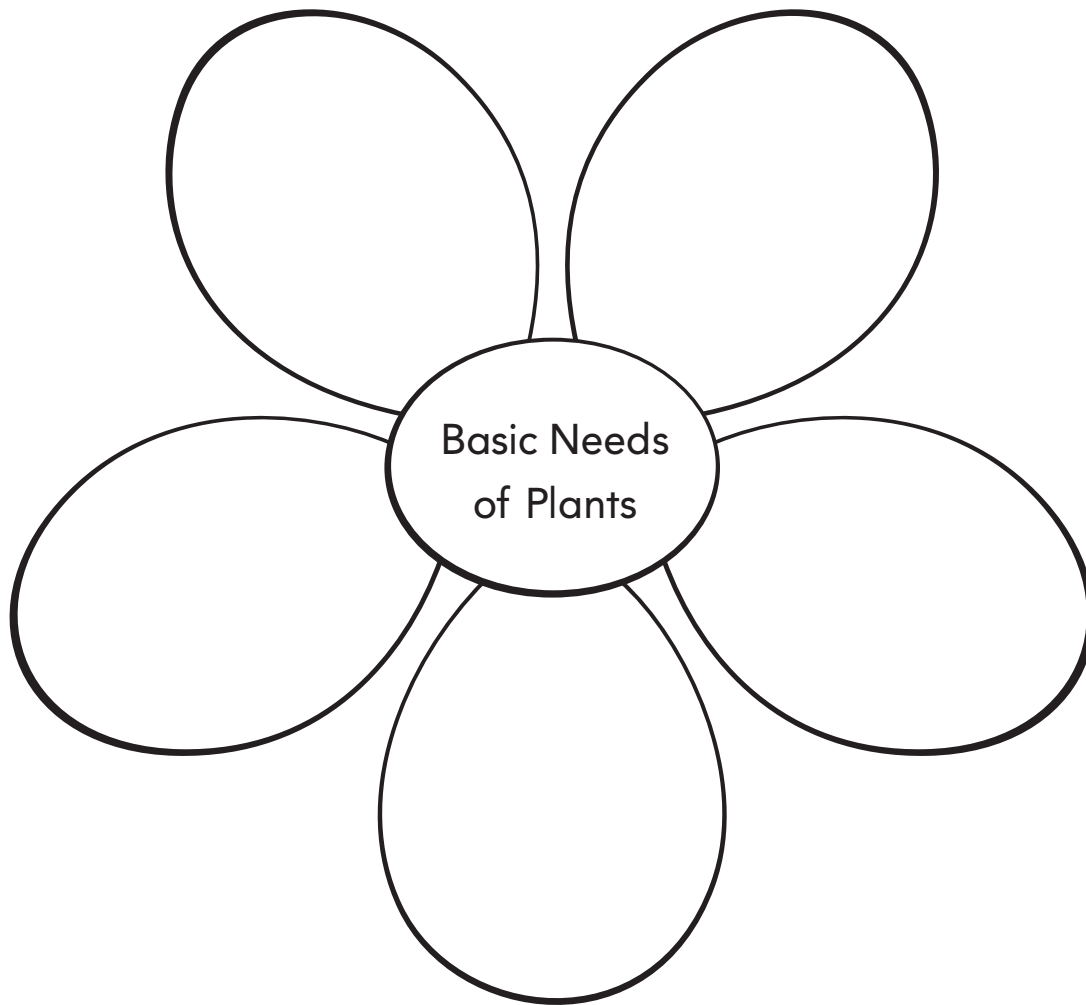
s	u	n	l	i	g	h	t	a	s
p	a	e	k	w	a	t	r	b	o
a	i	r	y	a	n	s	o	i	l
c	p	c	e	t	l	d	o	u	i
e	t	s	p	e	c	a	t	m	n
a	n	u	t	r	i	e	n	t	s

What are the things that plants must meet to live and grow?



Apply Concepts

Complete the word web to tell about the things that plants need.



Take It
Home

Family Members: See *ScienceSaurus*[®] for more information about plants.