

PHOTOSYNTHESIS / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- Learn what photosynthesis is;
- Learn what a plant needs in order to grow and survive;
- Learn different adaptations that plants have;
- Learn why plants are so important to us and the role they play on Earth;
- Learn how some plants do not strictly rely on just photosynthesis for food.

Lesson Summary

Part 1. Introduction (3-5 minutes)

Part 1. What is Photosynthesis? (5-10 minutes)

Photosynthesis is the process that a plant uses to make their own food. Students will learn about this process and where it occurs in the plant.

Part 2. Why is it Important? (5-10 minutes)

Plants play a very important role on Earth. Students will explore that role and learn why photosynthesis is an important process not only to plants, but to all living things.

Part 3. Alternative Food and Adaptations (10-15 minutes)

Almost all plants get their food using only photosynthesis. However there are a few species of carnivorous plants that get their food by consuming animals! Other plant adaptations, such as leaf size, also play an important role in plant survival.

Activity 1. Photosynthesis Skit

Students should now have a basic understanding of what photosynthesis is, the process, and its importance. To demonstrate this understanding, students will perform a short 5-minutes skit about photosynthesis.