

CONSERVATORY READER: INTRO TO PLANTS



An early view of the Conservatory.

The Garfield Park Conservatory opened in 1908 and is one of the largest conservatories in the United States. The Conservatory grows plants from around the world in greenhouses and outside.

Home to venus fly traps, tall palms, and chocolate trees, the Conservatory is a place to learn and explore!



WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF A PLANT?

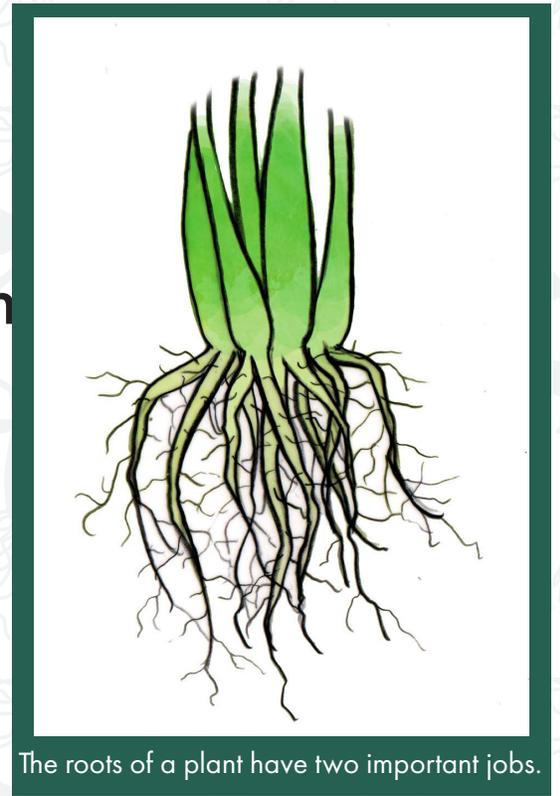
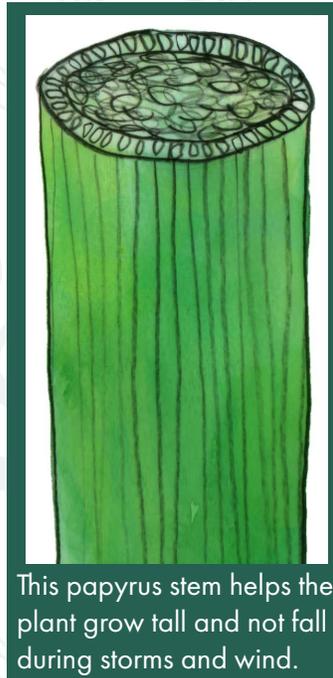
Plants look different but have the same parts! Most plants have **roots**, a **stem**, **leaves**, **fruit**, and **flowers**. Each part of a plant has a job.



Can you name the different parts of this plant?

The **roots** of a plant have two jobs. They hold the plant in the ground. It does not fall when the wind blows. The roots also bring in food from the soil.

The **stem** of a plant brings the food from the soil to the plant. The stem also helps the plant stand tall.



The **leaves** of a plant use the light from the sun to make food. The **flowers** of a plant use colors and smells to bring animals to the plant.

The **fruit** keeps the **seeds** safe. Once the seeds fall, they grow into a new plant! All of the parts of a plant are important. Come visit the Conservatory to see plant parts in action!

INTRO TO PLANTS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

-  What might happen to a plant if it didn't have roots?
-  What might happen to a plant if it didn't have a stem?
-  Why do you think some plants have big leaves and some plants have small leaves?
-  What color flowers do you think we'll see at the Conservatory? What do you think they will smell like?
-  What fruit do you like? Have you ever found a seed in fruit you were eating?
-  What questions do you have about plant parts?
Remember them or write them down, and ask the staff at the Conservatory!

School groups are welcome at the Conservatory Tuesday through Friday from 9 am-1 pm. For more information visit garfieldconservatory.org/group-visits or email groups@garfieldpark.org.

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