Name: _____ Date: _____

# What Roots Do

Circle group

A tree has a trunk and leaves. Some parts are under the ground.

Roots grow in the dirt. Roots hold the plant up. Roots drink water. They are like a straw.

The water goes up into the plant.

## Questions

**1. Where do roots grow?**

_____

_____

**2. What do roots hold up?**

_____

_____

**3. What do roots drink?**

_____

_____

**4. What are roots like?**

_____

_____

**5. Why does a plant need roots?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

roots: the parts of a plant that grow under the ground
trunk: the thick middle part of a tree
straw: a thin tube you drink through
dirt: the soil on the ground

## Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

# What Roots Do

Triangle group

Look at a tree. You can see the trunk and the leaves. But some parts are under the ground.

Roots grow in the dirt. Roots hold the plant so it can stand. Roots also drink water, like a straw.

The water goes up into the plant. Roots help the plant live and grow.

## Questions

**1. Where do roots grow?**

_____

_____

**2. What do roots hold?**

_____

_____

**3. What do roots drink?**

_____

_____

**4. What are roots like?**

_____

_____

**5. Why do you think a plant needs roots?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

roots: the parts of a plant that grow under the ground
trunk: the thick middle part of a tree
straw: a thin tube you drink through
dirt: the soil on the ground

## Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

# What Roots Do

Square group

Look closely at a tree. You can see the trunk, the branches, and all the leaves. But some of the tree is hidden under the ground.

Those hidden parts are the roots. They spread out through the dirt and hold the plant firmly so that it can stand tall. Roots also drink water from the soil, just like a straw does.

The water travels up into the rest of the plant. Without roots, a plant could not live and grow.

## Questions

**1. Where do the roots of a tree grow?**

_____

_____

**2. What do roots hold firmly so it can stand tall?**

_____

_____

**3. What do roots drink from the soil?**

_____

_____

**4. What do roots work like when they drink?**

_____

_____

**5. Why could a plant not live without roots?**

_____

_____

## Words to know

roots: the parts of a plant that grow under the ground
trunk: the thick middle part of a tree
straw: a thin tube you drink through
dirt: the soil on the ground

## Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

# For the teacher: What Roots Do

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

### Circle: What Roots Do

Easier · 38 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.4

1. In the dirt.
2. The plant.
3. Water.
4. A straw.
5. They hold it up and give it water.

### Triangle: What Roots Do

This passage · 53 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.1

1. In the dirt, under the ground.
2. They hold the plant so it can stand.
3. Water.
4. A straw.
5. Roots keep it standing and give it water to live.

### Square: What Roots Do

Harder · 80 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2

1. Under the ground, in the dirt.
2. The plant.
3. Water.
4. A straw.
5. It would not stand up or get the water it needs.