

Parts of a Strawberry



GRADE 4 SCIENCE

Topic E: Plant Growth and Changes

2. Identify and describe the general purpose of plant roots, stems, leaves and flowers.
8. Describe ways that various flowering plants can be propagated, including from seed, from cuttings, from bulbs and by runners.

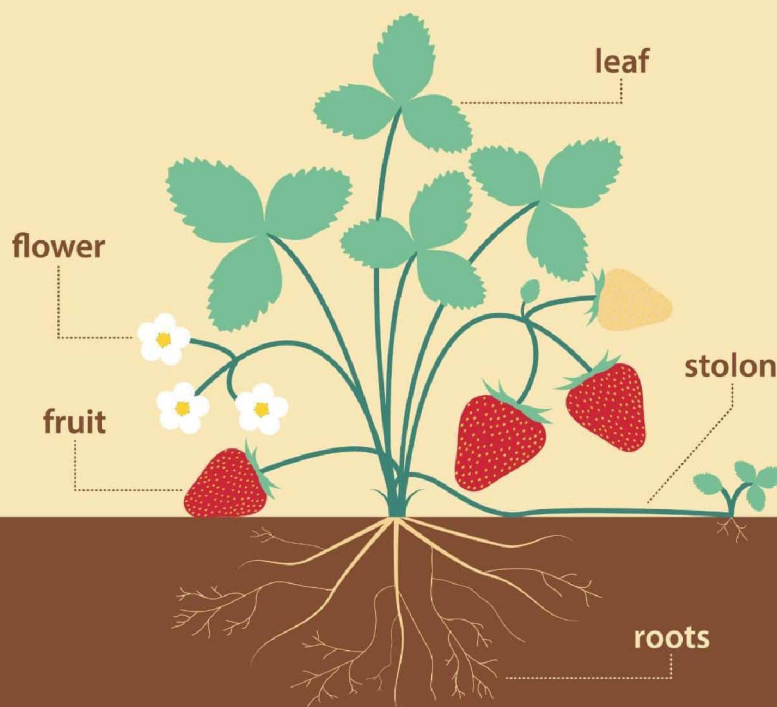
GRADE 7 SCIENCE

2. Investigate life processes and structures of plants, and interpret related characteristics and needs of plants in a local environment.

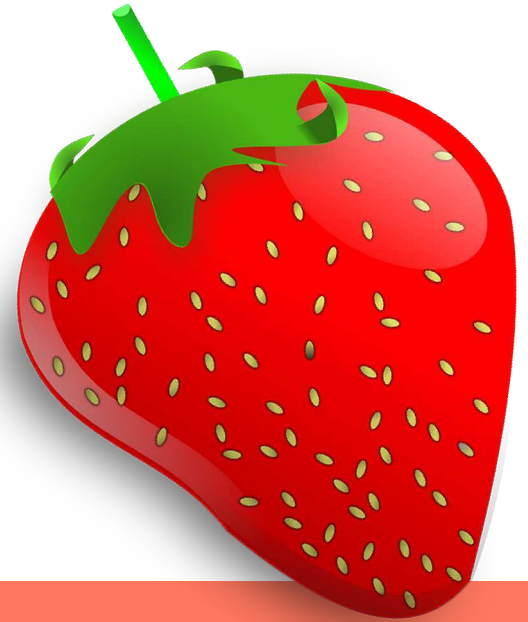
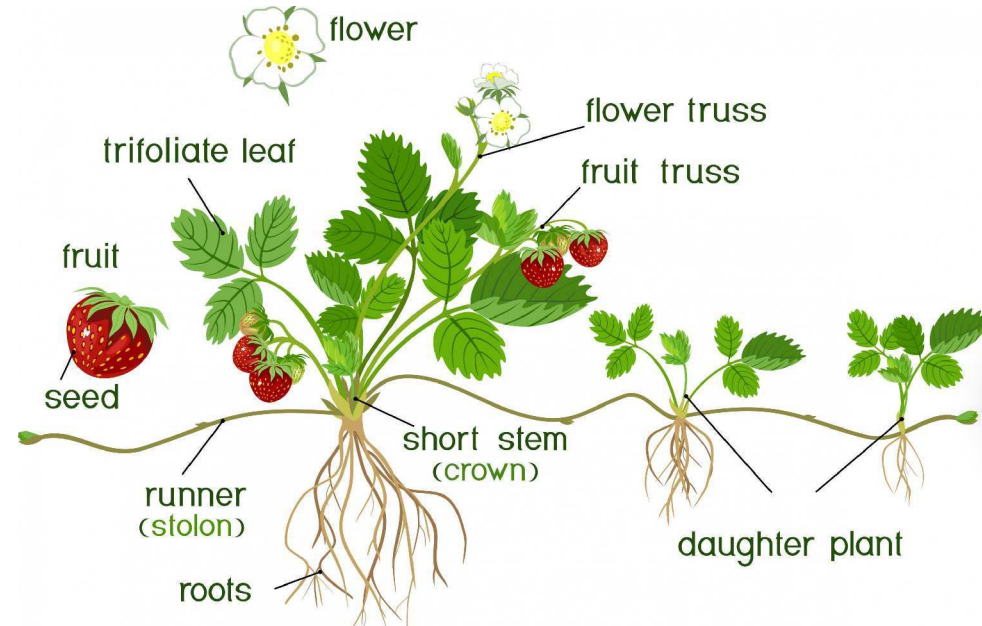
- Describe the general structure and functions of seed plants (e.g., describe the roots, stem, leaves and flower of a common local plant)
- Investigate and interpret variations in plant structure, and relate these to different ways that plants are adapted to their environment (e.g., distinguish between plants with shallow spreading roots and those with deep taproots; describe and interpret differences in flower form and in the timing of flower production).



STRAWBERRY PLANT



Parts of a Strawberry



CROWN

- The strawberry plant grows from a dense “crown” at the base of the soil.
- The leaves, fruit, runners and roots all grow from the crown.
- Strawberries are usually planted as dormant bare root crowns with just a couple of leaves and a small root system.

RUNNERS AND DAUGHTER PLANTS

- Strawberry plants reproduce through stolons or “runners.”
- Runners extend out several inches from the crown, take root in the soil and produce new plants called “daughter plants.”
- In June-bearing strawberries, runners and daughter plants are necessary for the plants to spread and fill out the rows, but they are removed from between the rows.
- Runners are not needed in day-neutral strawberries, so they should be removed throughout the season.

LEAVES

- Strawberry leaves have three blades per leaf, on long stems.
- Leaves are dormant from late fall to mid-spring.

ROOTS

- Strawberry roots are generally shallow.
- Most roots occupy the top 6 inches of soil except in very sandy soils, where they can reach down to 12 inches.

FLOWERS AND FRUIT

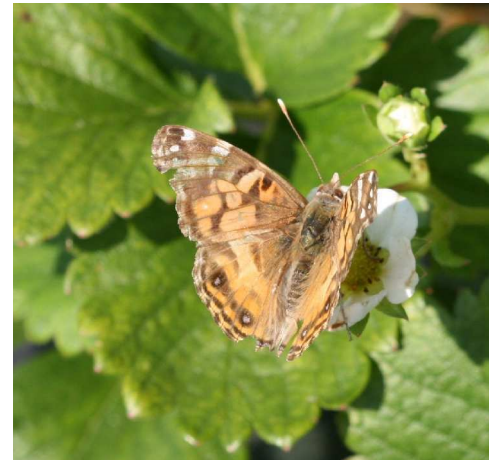
- June-bearing strawberries start blooming in late May and fruit heavily from mid-June to mid-July depending on cultivar.
- Day-neutral strawberries flower from June until the first heavy frost in the fall.

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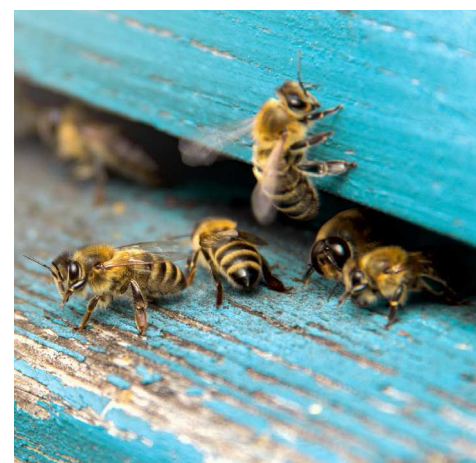
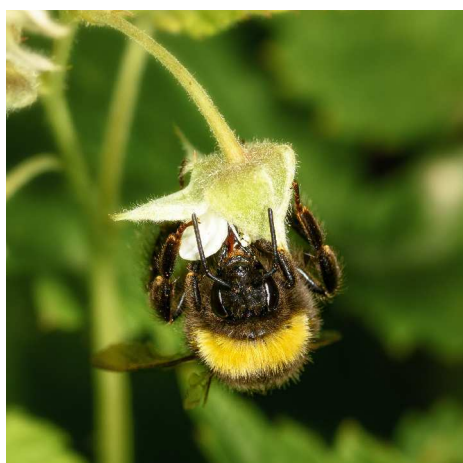


POLLINATION AND BEARING FRUIT

In addition to bees, some flies and butterflies also pollinate strawberry blossoms.



- Most strawberry varieties are self-fruitful, meaning they do not require cross-pollination from a second variety.
- There are hundreds of stigmas on each flower. Each stigma must receive pollen in order to develop a large, well-formed berry.
- Wind helps to move some pollen from the anthers to the stigmas, but insects are the primary pollinators of strawberries.
- Some commercial growers bring in colonies of bees to pollinate their strawberries.



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REFERENCES:

Authors: Annie Klodd, Emily Tepe, Emily Hoover

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