

# Project glossary

## **anchor**

To fix firmly in position.

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## **anther**

A male part of a flower where pollen grains are made.

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## **blade**

The large, flat surface of a leaf.

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## **bud**

A part of a plant that develops into a flower or leaf.

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## **carbon dioxide**

A colourless gas in the air that plants use to make food.

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## **carpel**

A flower's female reproductive organ.

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## **epiphyte**

A plant that grows on another plant or object with aerial roots that take in water from the air. Epiphytes are also called air plants.

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## **fibrous root system**

Thin roots with root hairs that grow out from a plant's stem just under the soil's surface.

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## **filament**

A male part of a flower that supports an anther.

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## **flower**

A part of some plants. It is needed for plants to reproduce by making seeds that will grow into new offspring.



**fruit**

A part of some plants that develops from the carpel of a flower. It usually has one or more seeds inside.

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**germination**

The process where a seeds starts to grow.

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**growth**

The process in the life cycle of all animals and plants where they develop and increase in size.

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**lateral root**

A root that grows sideways.

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**leaf**

A part of a plant that is usually green and has a flat blade. It makes food for the plant through the process of photosynthesis and moves water through the plant through the process of transpiration.

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**life cycle**

A series of changes that happen during the life of a living thing.

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**nectar**

A sweet liquid that plants make to encourage animals to visit their flowers.

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**nutrient**

A substance that plants and animals need to grow and survive.

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**offspring**

An animal’s young or new plants grown from a plant’s seeds.

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**petal**

A part of a flower that is brightly coloured and scented to attract insects.

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**phloem**

A tube that carries food made in the leaves to the parts of a plant where it is needed.



**photosynthesis**

The process where leaves make food for a plant.

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**pollen**

Grains produced by the anther on top of the stamen in a flower.

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**pollination**

The process where pollen is transferred by an animal or the wind from the anther of one flower to the carpel of another flower of the same type.

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**pollinator**

An animal that transfers pollen for the process of pollination.

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**pore**

A tiny hole on the surface of a plant or animal.

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**reproduction**

The process of producing offspring.

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**root**

A part of a plant that is usually underground. It takes in water and nutrients and anchors the plant securely in the ground.

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**seed**

A small object produced by a plant that will grow into a new plant if the conditions are right for germination.

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**seed dispersal**

The movement of seeds by animals, wind, explosion or water away from the parent plant.

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**seedling**

A young plant that has grown from a seed.

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**sepal**

A green, leaf-shaped part of a plant that protects a developing flower.



**stalk**

A thin stem that joins leaves, flowers or fruit to the stem of a plant.

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**stamen**

A flower’s male reproductive organ.

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**stem**

A part of a plant that supports the leaves and flowers and usually grows upwards toward the sunlight. It contains vessels that transport water, nutrients and food around the plant.

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**taproot system**

A large, primary root with smaller, lateral roots and root hairs.

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**transpiration**

The process where water is lost through pores on the underside of the leaves, which pulls more water up through the plant from the roots.

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**vascular plant**

A plant with vessels or tubes that transport water, nutrients and food.

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**vein**

Any one of the thin tubes that can be seen on the surface of a leaf.

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**vessel**

A tube that transports liquids.

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**xylem**

A tube that moves water and nutrients from the roots around the plant.



# Scientific terms glossary

**compare**

To look at two or more things closely and see what is the same or different.

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**conclusion**

An explanation of what has been found out using the data collected.

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**control**

A variable that is not changed in an investigation so that only the effects of changing another variable are observed.

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**data**

Collected information or facts, including numbers, words, measurements or observations.

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**describe**

To say aloud or write how something is done or what something is like.

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**diagram**

A drawing with labels that shows the parts of something.

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**equipment**

An object or objects that are needed for a particular purpose, such as a hand lens and digital microscope.

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**fair test**

A test or investigation in which only one variable is changed each time measurements are made.

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**investigation**

An activity that involves a person studying a subject or problem carefully to learn facts or answer a question. An investigation includes a planning, doing, recording and reviewing stage.



**measurement**

The exact amount of something, such as the length, height, mass or volume in standard units.

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**method**

A set of instructions or steps to do a particular task.

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**observe**

To watch or look at something carefully.

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**prediction**

A statement made by a person where they say what they think will happen in the future, using their knowledge or experiences.

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**question**

Something we ask using words like how, what, where, when, who and why.

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**record**

To write down data, such as numbers, words, measurements or observations in different ways, such as lists, tables, charts or labelled diagrams.

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**research**

To study a subject to discover new facts or information.

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**results**

The data collected from an investigation or test.

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**table**

A way of recording data in rows and columns.

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**variable**

A factor, such as an object or condition, that changes during an investigation.

