



What Plants Need to Grow

twinkl

What a Plant Needs



air

light

water



nutrients



warmth

Why Does it Need Them?

- If a seed is not **warm** enough, it will not germinate
- Germination is when the seed starts to sprout in to a plant
- If a plant does not have enough **light**, it will grow to be tall and flimsy as it searches for light. It will probably die.
- If a plant is not **watered** enough, its stem will be fragile and have very dry leaves. It will eventually die.

What Parts of a Plant Do

The **leaves** use a process called **photosynthesis** to produce food for the plant. They use **light, water and carbon dioxide** to do this.

The **stem** transports water and nutrients to all parts of the plant.

The **roots** take up water and nutrients from the soil. They also keep the plant in the ground.





Now answer these questions:

Plants Need...

Use the words below to finish the sentences.



light



water



air



soil

Many plants need _____ from the sun.

Many plants need _____ or they will dry out.

Many plants need _____ to grow their roots in.
They get the nutrients they need from the soil.

Plants need _____, _____ and _____
which they use to make food.

Plants Need... Answers

Use the words below to finish the sentences.



light



water



air



soil

Many plants need **light** from the sun.

Many plants need **water** or they will dry out.

Many plants need **soil** to grow their roots in.

They get the nutrients they need from the soil.

Plants need **light**, **water** and **soil** which they use to

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Make a Cress Head

You will need:

- Eggs
- Cotton wool
- Felt tips
- Cress seeds

The Activity:

Cress seeds are easy and quick to grow on damp cotton wool. In this activity you can make an eggshell into a funny face with cress hair!



Instructions:

1. Depending on how you want to use the eggs, you can either hard boil them and eat them for breakfast, or crack the shells and put the raw egg to one side to use later. Either way, try to crack the shell as near to the pointed end as possible. You can throw away the smaller piece of shell.
2. Wash the inside of the eggshell carefully and let it dry.
3. Using felt tips, draw a face on the eggshell. Make it as funny, silly or unusual as you like. You only need to draw the features of the face, not an oval face shape.
4. Fill the eggshell with cotton wool and pour in enough water to make it damp.
5. Sprinkle cress seeds onto the top of the cotton wool.
6. Put your eggshell in a light place but out of direct sunlight. Keep it well watered but not waterlogged.
7. In a few days, your egg should start to grow its cress 'hair'.

Hints and Tips

- Wash your hands after touching raw egg.
- You can sit your eggshell on an eggcup, or you could make a 'body' for it out of a slice of cardboard tube. You can decorate the tube to look like clothes if you like.
- You may have some cress seeds left over. Put some damp cotton wool into a plastic tray (the ones that contain vegetables at the supermarket are good for this) and sprinkle the rest of the seeds onto it. Once the cress has grown, cut it with scissors and use in a sandwich or a salad.
- If you have leftover raw egg, ask your helper if you can use it to make a cake.



Instead of using an egg shell, Mrs Williams has planted her cress seeds in a laundry liquid measuring cup. You can also use yoghurt pots or plastic cups, cut down to size.

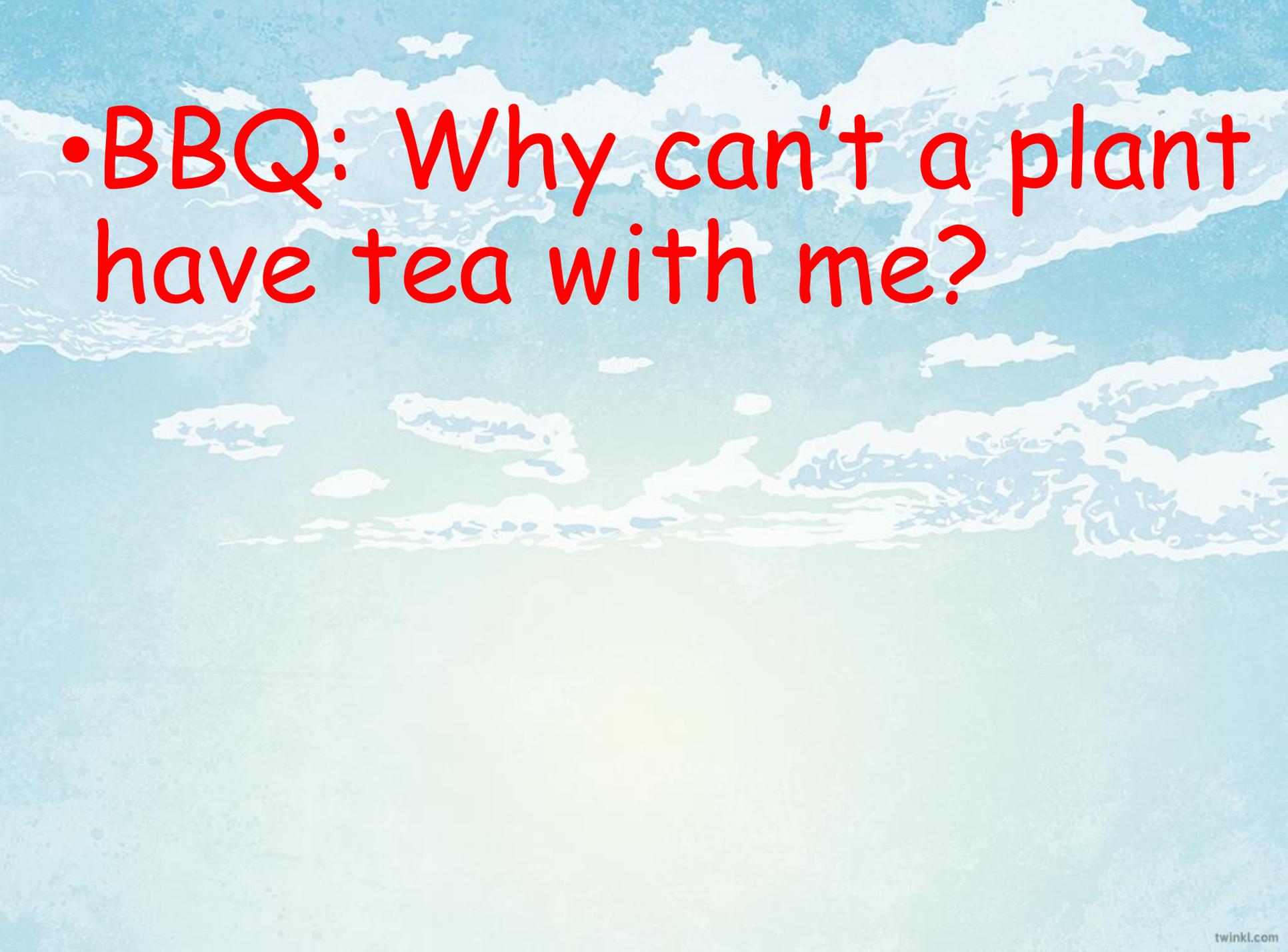


Take a photo or draw a picture of your cress seeds after you have planted them, and again on days four, seven and fourteen. Record your results in a Cress diary (see separate documents).

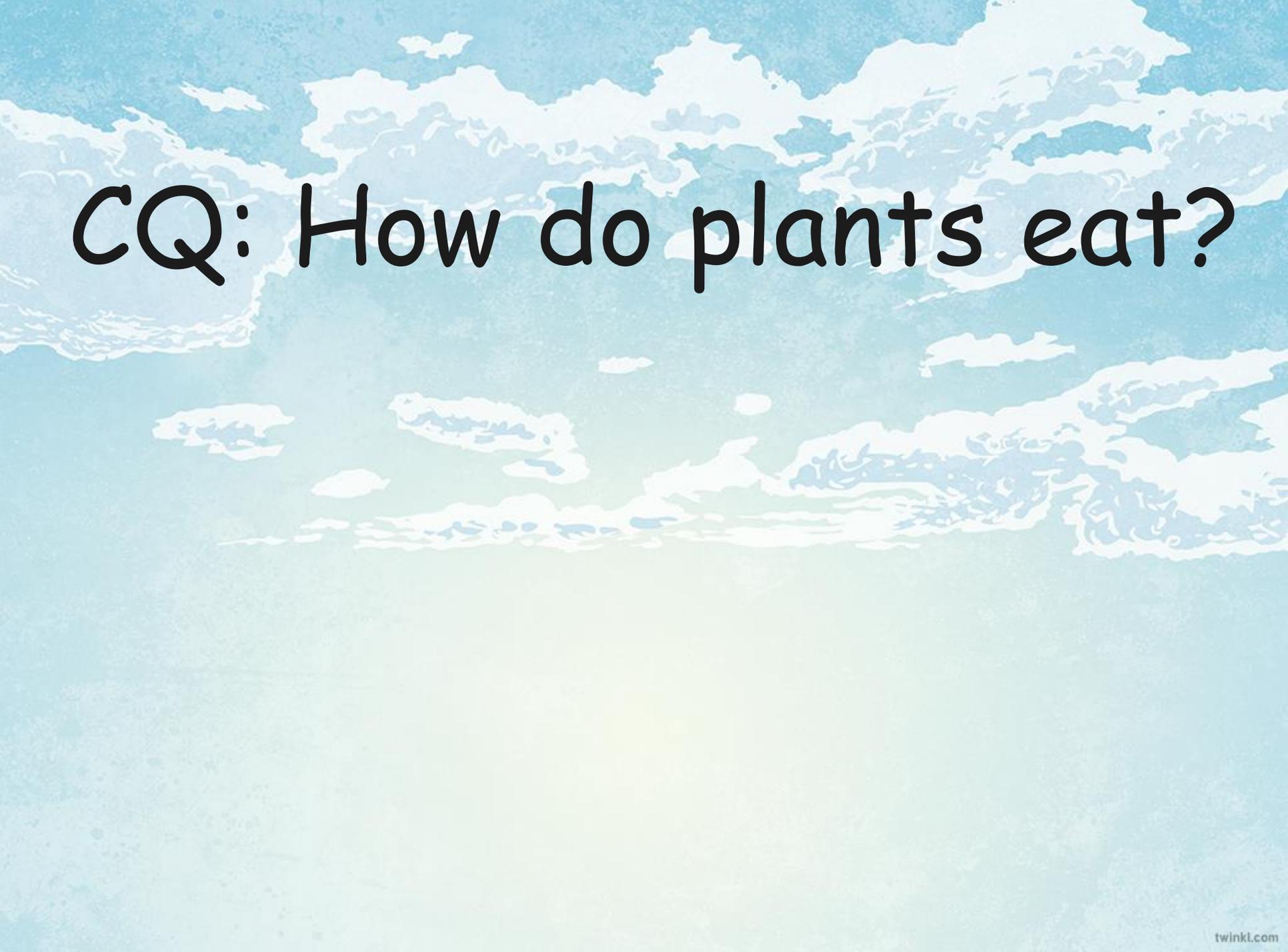
What other seeds can you grow?

Maybe you could try any of the following:

- **Broad beans**
 - **Sunflowers**
 - **Sweet peas**
 - **Peas**
 - **Mung beans (bean sprouts)**
 - **Marigolds**
-
- **You do not need a garden to grow. A pot, tub, planter or growbag on a patio, balcony or railings, or even pots and small planters on a windowsill will work equally well.**
 - **Have fun and enjoy the fruits of your labours.**



•BBQ: Why can't a plant have tea with me?



CQ: How do plants eat?