

Plant Observation Journal



By

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Keri Hawkins/DF2S ©

Greetings fellow gardener,

Davis Farm to School is very excited that you are interested in the life cycle of plants! We have created this journal for you to note your observations after you transplant your seedling or sow a seed. What will it look like when it grows, flowers, and goes to seed?

If you would like to share something about your plant, please send us a photo with a quick note telling us something about your picture. We would love to hear from you!

Instagram Tag @#df2smyplant or email: info@davisfarmtoschool.org



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What is the name of your seedling? _____

Where did you plant your seed or seedling? _____

In the soil?

In a pot?

What is the location's growing condition?

Sunny

Partly sunny

Shady



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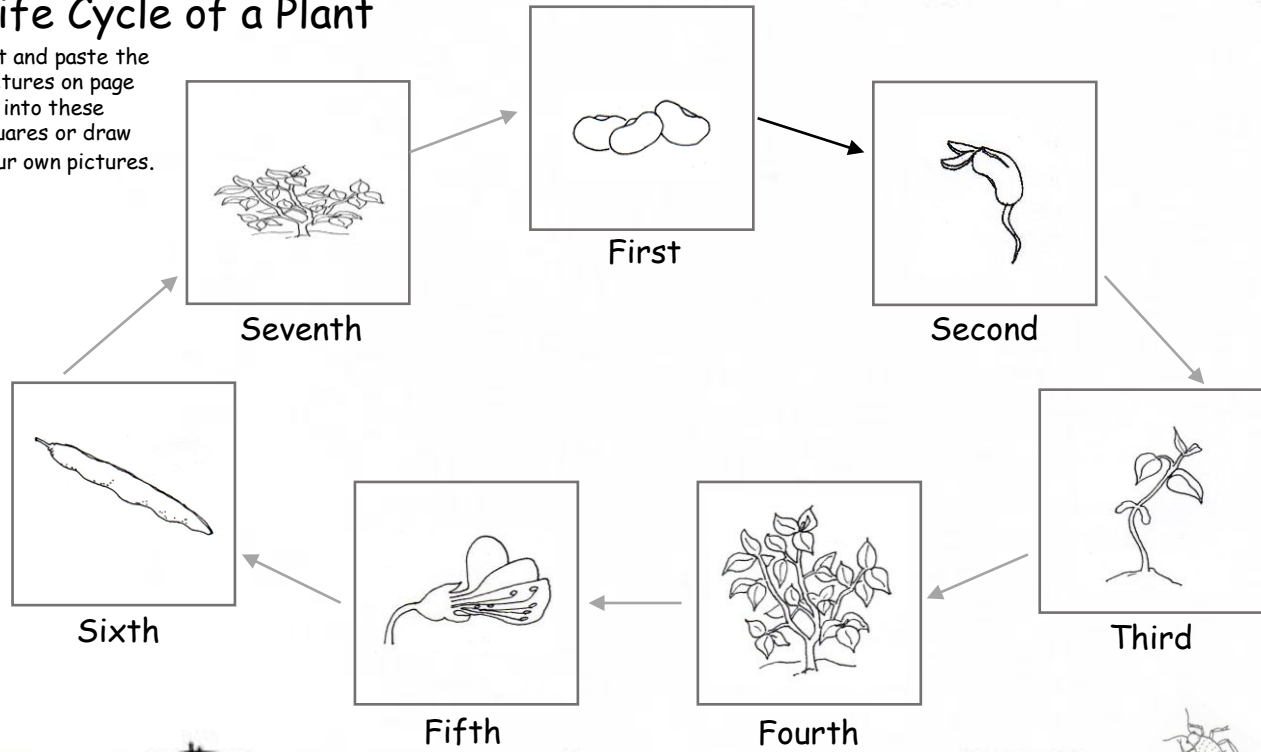
Draw a picture or map of where you planted your seed or seedling.



4

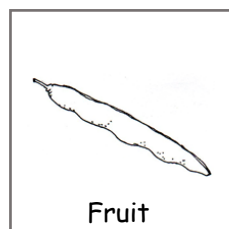
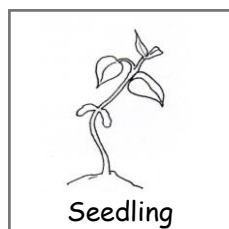
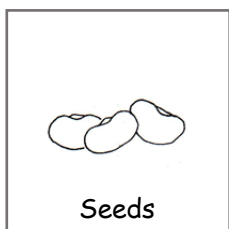
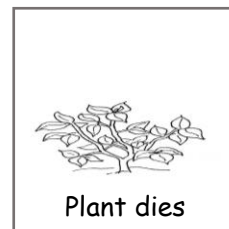
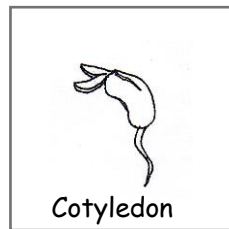
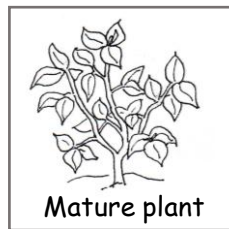
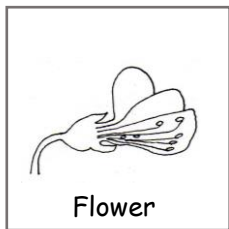
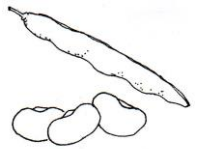
Life Cycle of a Plant

Cut and paste the pictures on page 5a into these squares or draw your own pictures.

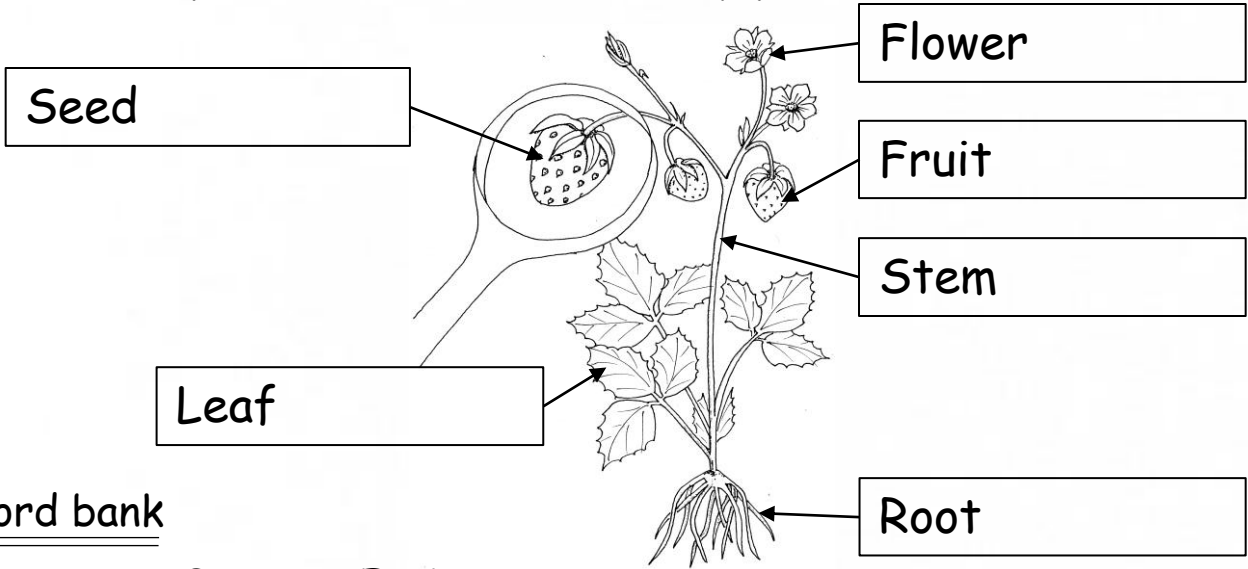


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Cut along the boarder of each square below. Place the images in the correct order on the Life Cycle of a Plant page above or draw your own pictures in the boxes above for each stage of the plant life cycle.



Label the parts of this strawberry plant.



Word bank

- Root Stem Fruit
 Flower Seeds Leaf



Not all plants are edible. Some plants are poisonous and can be harmful if eaten. For example, the leaves, green stem, and flowers of the potato plant are poisonous, but the potato tuber is safe to eat. Draw examples in the boxes below of plant parts that are safe to eat. What part of the plant is a carrot, broccoli, apple, pepita, celery, or kale?

Some examples: Carrot, beets, potato	Celery, asparagus, rhubarb, onion	Lettuce, kale, spinach
Root	Stem	Leaf
Artichoke, broccoli, cauliflower	Kiwi, pineapple, apple	Corn, wheat, pepita
Flower	Fruit	Seed



With an adult, identify the parts of your plant that you can eat. Predict how the edible parts will taste and look once they have matured. Draw a picture of yourself eating the edible parts.

What delicious dish can you make with your plant?

My recipe for _____

Ingredients:

Directions:

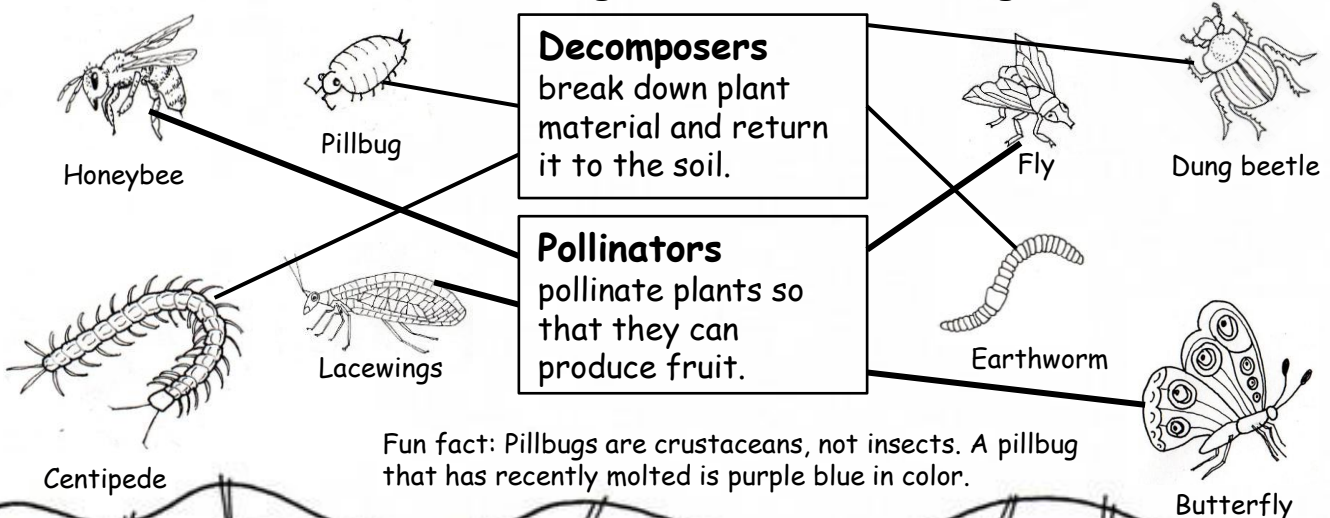
Circle three or four things your plant needs to survive.



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Organisms play two important roles. Decomposers return nutrients to the soil and pollinators pollinate flowers so that plants can reproduce. Draw a line from the organism to its function in the environment. Remember, most organisms need to fly to reach a flower and crawl to get to organic matter on the ground.



Fun fact: Pillbugs are crustaceans, not insects. A pillbug that has recently molted is purple blue in color.

Butterfly 11

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Pests: Some organisms harm plants by causing damage to roots, leaves, stems, fruit, or seeds. Gardeners consider destructive organisms pests, or "bad bugs". Below are a few examples of the most common pesky invaders you will want to keep away from your vegetable and herb plants.



Aphids



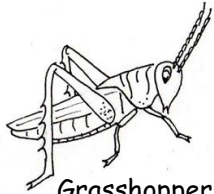
Scale



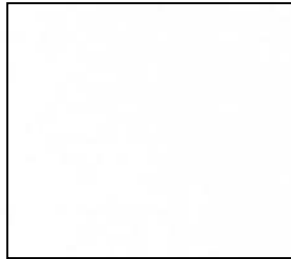
Caterpillar



Slug



Grasshoppers



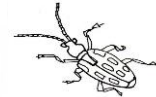
Draw your insect



Earwigs



Snails



Cucumber beetle

Some organisms may be considered "good" or "bad" depending on their developmental phase and where they are found. For example, a butterfly, may be considered a "bad bug" in one phase of its lifecycle (when it's a caterpillar), but a "good bug" in another (when it is a butterfly).

Beneficial insects: Some insects play an important role by protecting plants from harmful insects. Gardeners call these insects good bugs and welcome them into their garden. Below are a few examples of common good bugs.



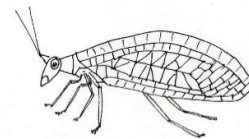
Ladybug



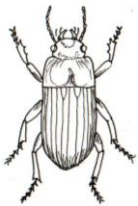
Wasp



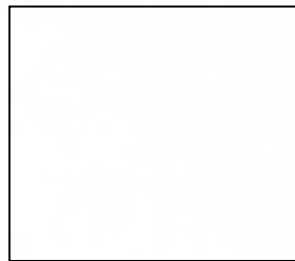
Ladybug larva



Lacewing



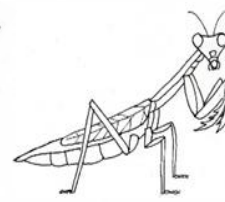
Ground beetle



Draw your insect



Spider



Praying mantis



Butterfly

iNaturalist or **Picture Insect** are two wonderful phone apps that can help you identify insects in your garden.

Do you see any organisms on or near your plant?

Yes
 No

Draw a picture of the organism.

What is the organism doing?



Do you think it is a beneficial (good) organism or a harmful (bad) organism?

Good Bad

Why?



Over the summer, I will observe and record my plant's weekly growth. I will record the date, make observations, measure my plant, and draw pictures.

I believe if I take these step to care for my plant, _____
(For example: carefully transplanting it, watering it, etc.)

I predict my plant will _____

Day _____

I noticed _____

Draw a picture of your plant.



Day _____

I observed _____

Sunny Cloudy Raining

Draw a picture of your plant.

cm tall

I watered my plant Yes No

Day _____

I wonder _____

Draw a picture of your plant.

Day _____

I observed _____

Sunny Cloudy Raining

Draw a picture of your plant.

cm tall

I watered my plant Yes No

Day _____

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