

Plants vs Animals

READ ALOUD PASSAGE

Plants and animals are both living things, but they get their energy in very different ways. Plants make their own food using sunlight, water, and a gas from the air called carbon dioxide. This process is called photosynthesis. Plants do not need to move around to find food because they can make it right where they are.

Animals cannot make their own food. They must eat other organisms to get the energy they need. Some animals eat plants. These are called herbivores. Some animals eat other animals. These are called carnivores. Some animals eat both plants and animals. These are called omnivores.

There are some tricky cases. Fungi, like mushrooms, look like plants because they do not move around, but they cannot make their own food. They get their energy by breaking down dead matter. Coral looks like a plant but is actually an animal.

The most important difference to remember is this: plants make their own food through photosynthesis, and animals must consume food to get their energy. All animals are ultimately dependent on plants, because even animals that eat other animals are eating animals that ate plants.

Activity 1

Circle True or False for each statement.

1. **True / False** Plants make their own food using sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide.
 2. **True / False** Animals can make their own food through photosynthesis.
 3. **True / False** Herbivores are animals that eat only plants.
 4. **True / False** Mushrooms are animals because they cannot make their own food.
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Activity 2

Because / But / So Complete each sentence three different ways.

Plants do not need to move to find food because

Plants do not need to move to find food but

Plants do not need to move to find food so

Activity 3

Combine the short sentences below into one smooth sentence.

1.
 - Plants make their own food.
 - They use sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide.
 - This process is called photosynthesis.

Combined sentence:

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2.
 - Animals cannot make food.
 - They must eat plants or other animals.
 - All food energy traces back to the sun.

Combined sentence:

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