

Science Study Guide

Seed and Non-Seed Plants

A **seed** is a part of a plant that becomes a new plant. A plant that can form a new plant from a seed is a **seed plant**. **Germination** is when a tiny plant grows out of the seed. Two groups of plants form seeds.

Seed Plants

One group of seed forming plants are plants that have flowers. Flowers grow on bushes, trees and small plants. Fruit grows around the seed and protects it.

Examples

- *Hibiscus*
- *Dandelion*
- *Yellow Elder*
- *Mango*

The other group of seed forming plants are plants that have **cones**. Cones grow on some evergreen trees such as pine trees, spruce trees, hemlock and cedar.

Non-Seed Plants

A plant without seeds is called a non-seed plant. Some non-seed plants grow **spores** instead of seeds. The main groups of non-seed plants are *algae*, *seaweed*, *mosses*, *liverworts* and ferns.

Monocots and Dicots

All plants that produce flowers and seeds are **flowering plants**. The seeds they produce may have one or two food leaves called **cotyledons**. Flowering plants are divided into two groups; **monocots** and **dicots**.

PLANT PARTS	MONOCOTS	DICOTS
leaves	narrow and parallel	broad and have a network of veins
food leaves	one food leaf	two food leaves
flowers	grow in multiples of 3	grow in multiples of 4 or 5
roots	grow randomly	grow down and spread out

Indigenous Plants

Indigenous plants are plants that are native to specific country. Some of these plants are used to cure **illnesses** and **conditions**. In The Bahamas, these plants are called **bush medicines**.

INDIGENOUS PLANTS	DESCRIPTION	CONDITIONS
Morning Glory	purple bell shaped flowers	constipations, stings & bites
Rooster Comb	yellow flowers	pain in joints
Sea grapes	green	upset stomach

Food Chain and Food Web

All living things need energy. Living things get their energy from food. **Food Chain** is the flow of food in an ecosystem from one living thing to another. A food chain also shows how energy moves through the environment. Living things in an ecosystem can be classified as **producer**, **consumer** and **decomposer**. A **food Web** is a combination of food chains.

- **Producers** are plants. Plants are the only living things that make their own food.
- **Consumers** are living things that eat other living things. These include humans and animals.
- **Decomposers** are living things such as **mushrooms** and **earthworms**. They break down dead plants and animals for food.

Ecosystem

An **ecosystem** is a place where living things and non-living things interact and depend on each other. There are different types of ecosystems. Some examples of ecosystems include **pine forests**, **coral reefs** and **mangroves**.

Pine Forests

A forest is an area in which the main plants are trees. In a pine forest there are **pine trees**, **bushes**, **ferns** and **grass**. Animals such as **raccoons**, **birds**, and **snakes** live in the pine forest.

Coral Reefs

Coral reefs are made up of **rocky skeletons** of many tiny animals called **corals**. Corals reefs provide homes for marine animals such as **fish**, **crabs**, **crawfish**, **conch**, **sea eggs** or **sea urchins**, **sponges**, **starfish** and **octopus**. The third largest barrier coral reef in the world is found in the waters off **Andros**.

- Coral reefs provide protection from storms.
- Coral reefs are a great source of food for marine life.
- Coral reefs serve as tourist attractions.