

# Germination

What is germination?

**Germination is the process by which a plant grows from a seed.**



## Vocabulary

germination \_\_\_\_\_

germinate \_\_\_\_\_

seed coat \_\_\_\_\_

cotyledons \_\_\_\_\_

embryo \_\_\_\_\_

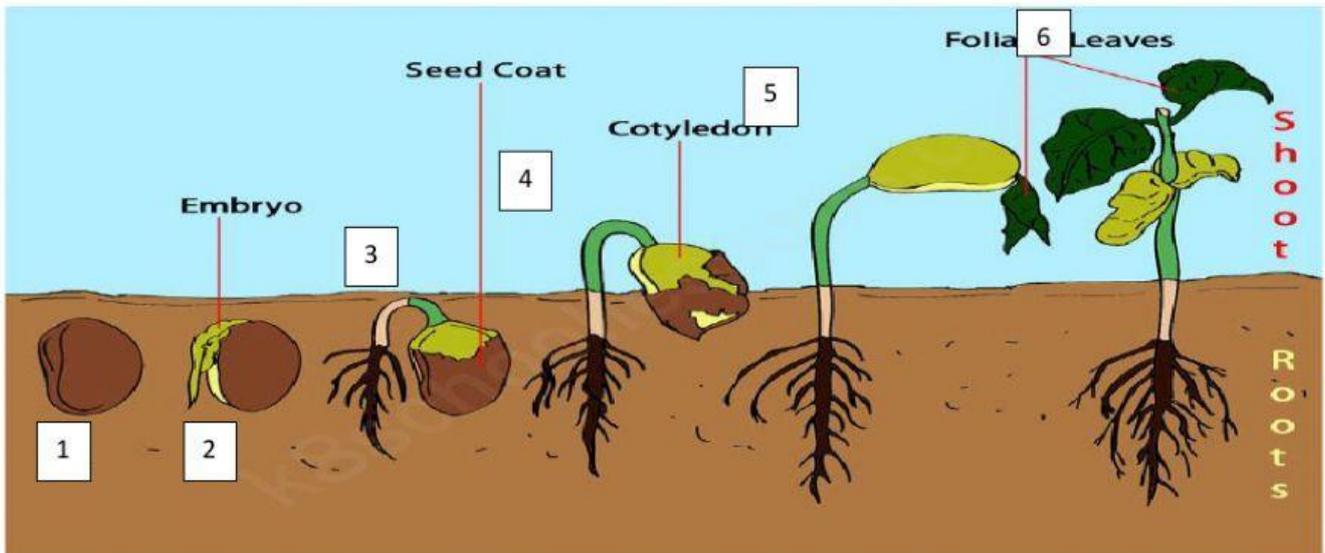
radicle \_\_\_\_\_

plumule \_\_\_\_\_

root hairs \_\_\_\_\_

sprout \_\_\_\_\_

photosynthesis \_\_\_\_\_



Fill in the missing words from the help box.

germinate seed coat cotyledons embryo radicle absorb plumule hairs  
shoot two smaller photosynthesis

- Step 1:** A seed has to get soil, air, water and the right temperature to \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Water is absorbed through a tiny hole in the seed. The seed becomes bigger in size and softer. The \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ cracks. This allows air to enter. Water helps to dissolve the nutrients in the \_\_\_\_\_ (seed leaves).
- Step 2:** The \_\_\_\_\_ (baby plant) inside the seed starts to grow and get bigger. It pushes open the seed coat, a bit like a chick hatching out of an egg! We say, the seed has **sprouted**. The \_\_\_\_\_ (tiny baby root) **begins to grow downward**.
- Step 3:** The radicle (baby root) gets bigger and gets many root hairs. It starts to \_\_\_\_\_ water and nutrients from the soil. The \_\_\_\_\_ (tiny baby shoot) **begins to grow upwards** towards the top.
- Step 4:** The root gets bigger and gets many root \_\_\_\_\_. It continues to absorb water and nutrients from the soil. The \_\_\_\_\_ comes out of the soil.
- Step 5:** \_\_\_\_\_ tiny leaves start to grow on the shoot.
- Step 6:** The root continues to grow downward and gets bigger and stronger. The cotyledons become \_\_\_\_\_ as the leaves become bigger. Soon the leaves start to make their own food ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) and the cotyledons fall off.