

What is a pitcher plant??

1

Read and answer.

Read this information about a strange rainforest plant and try and answer these questions.

1. Where do pitcher plants grow?

2. What do pitcher plants eat?

3. What happens when an insect falls into a pitcher plant?



Fact file 5 pitcher plant

Pitcher plants are strange plants that grow in the rainforests of South America and Southeast Asia. The name pitcher means a kind of jug. They are called pitcher plants because the flower of the plant looks like a jug.

Pitcher plants are different from other plants because they eat insects! They have a nice smell and insects go to them to look for food. Pitcher plants have slippery leaves and insects quickly slip and slide down the leaves into the flower. The pitcher flowers have a pool of liquid at the bottom of them. The insects can't escape from the wet, slippery flower. As the insects fight to get out, the pitcher plant releases an acid and then eats the insect.

The biggest pitcher plants have flowers up to 30 cm deep. They hold more than 2 litres of liquid. Pitcher plants that are this big can trap lots of insects and even mice and frogs!



35

1 Look and think.

Look again at the description of pitcher plants on page 35 of your Classbook. What does this piece of writing tell us?

Choose one of the ideas in the list below.



- ☐ It tells us how someone feels.
- ☐ It tells us what happened in the past.
- ☐ It tells us facts and information about something.
- ☐ It tells us how to do something.

We use this kind of writing when we want to describe facts and information about a topic. It is called report writing.



3 Read, think and complete.

Look at this information about pitcher plants. Use the verbs in the pitcher plant to help you complete the sentences.

1. Pitcher plants _____ in rainforests.
2. They _____ a nice smell.
3. They _____ insects.
4. They _____ slippery leaves.
5. They can _____ more than 2 litres of liquid.



Look at the writing on page 35 of your Classbook and the sentences here to help you complete this rule about report writing.



When we write factual reports we usually use the

tense.

