

## GENERAL SCIENCE

### FUNGI



Fungi are plantlike living things that **do not contain chlorophyll**. Fungi do not move from place to place like plants. Unlike plants, **fungi cannot make its own food**. To get energy, fungi must take in food. Four types of common fungi are **mushrooms, mushrooms, mold, yeast and mildew**.

Fungi need **moisture** and **warmth** to grow. Mushrooms grow on the ground, on fallen logs and on live trees. **Mushrooms growing on live trees are parasites**. Mushrooms growing on fallen logs act as **decomposers**.

People use some mushrooms as food, but some mushrooms are deadly poison. Mushrooms sold in stores are safe to eat; however, you should not touch or eat wild mushrooms. **Mold** grows on bread, fruit, or in any damp, warm area. The **mold that grows on orange** is used to produce the antibiotic called **penicillin**.



**Yeast** is used to make bread rise. When the yeast uses sugar, carbon dioxide gas is formed. The carbon dioxide makes bread rise. **Mildew** grows on damp cloth, leather or on plants.



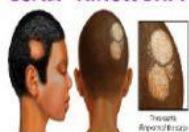
**Mildew** growing on leaves can damage the plant.

Some fungi are **helpful**, but, others are **harmful**.

- Helpful fungi break down decaying matter (mushroom). Many products are made with fungi. Fungi help to give cheese its flavor, color and texture.



#### SCALP RINGWORM



**Some types of fungi cause human diseases** that affect the skin. **Athlete's foot** is caused by a fungus that grows between the toes. **Ringworm** and **shifting clouds** are also caused by a fungus.

- Most fungi have **one cell**, but mushrooms have many cells.
- Plants grow from seeds, but **fungi** grow from **spores**.