3 You are going to read an article about how plants survive in the Arctic.
Tick ☑ the things that you think might help plants to survive there.

white flowers ☐	shallow roots ☐	big leaves ☐	tall plants ☐
dark flowers ☐	long, deep roots ☐	small leaves ☐	short plants ☐

4 Read the article and check your answers to Activity 3.
Underline the things from Activity 3 that are mentioned in the text.

ARCTIC PLANT LIFE

We've looked at some of the animals and people that live in the Arctic and have seen how they survive there, but what about the plants?

For plants in the Arctic, finding the heat, light and water they need to survive can be a big challenge. The Arctic is in total darkness for about 11 weeks during the winter. But in the middle of summer, it can be light for nearly 24 hours at a time!

Arctic plants can make flowers and seeds very quickly when it's sunny. Many of them have dark flowers to absorb the sun's energy. Some of them also have cup-shaped flowers so that they can direct the sun's energy into the middle of the flower. ☐

Water is only available in the Arctic for a short amount of time too. There are only 50–90 days when the ground isn't covered in ice, and even then, only a very small layer of soil melts enough to provide water. For this reason, Arctic plants have very shallow roots and that's why you won't find trees in the Arctic! You won't find big leaves in the Arctic, either. The plants that survive in the Arctic have very small leaves so that they don't lose much water from the surface.

Arctic plants have also adapted to the cold and windy conditions by staying close to the ground and close to each other. ☐ You won't find many tall plants standing on their own. Many of them also have a thin layer of hair to give them more protection from the wind, ice and snow – just like a woolly jumper! ☐



5 Match the plant photos with the correct part of the text. Write the letter.

6 Write three more characteristics of Arctic plants from the text that are not mentioned in Activity 3. How do these help the plants to survive?

1 They make flowers and seeds quickly. _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____

7 Project What is the most interesting fact about the Arctic that you found?

❄ _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS