

Vocabulary Chapter 13 Eukaryotes: Plants

multicellular

Consisting of many cells often specialized for different functions in an organism

Example: Humans are multicellular organisms just like a redwood tree.

vascular

Referring to tubes which carry fluids throughout parts of an organism

Example: Vascular plants have tubes or vessels designed to carry water from the roots to the leaves.

spores

One-celled reproductive bodies found in many primitive organisms such as fungi

Example: The mushroom spores caused an allergic reaction to the patient.

bryophyte

The group of plants containing the mosses

Example: The old saying that the bryophytes always grow on the north side of a tree is not always true.

stomates

Tiny openings in the leaves of plants which allow gases to move in and out of the plant

Example: The stomates in my violet were hard to see.

sporophyte

The spore-producing phase of a plant life cycle

Example: The sporophyte phase of the moss plant produces the spores necessary for sexual reproduction.

gametophyte

The gamete or sex cell phase of a plant life cycle

Example: The gametophyte phase of the moss plant produces the sex cells necessary for a sexual reproduction

embryo

A tiny version of the adult plant

Example: Each seed contains a tiny embryo.

pollination

The placement of pollen on the female part of the plant (stigma) by means of wind, water, or animals

Example: The hummingbird helps pollinate many flowers.

seed

A structure of flowering plants containing a tiny embryo and the food source necessary to begin life as a new plant

Example: Sunflower seeds contain all the necessary ingredients for a large sunflower.

peat

A material composed of dried moss that builds up over time in bogs

Example: Peat is harvested in Ireland and used for fuel.

sphagnum

A type of moss found growing in bogs

Example: Sphagnum is often used in decorative plant arrangements.

coal

A fossil fuel formed from the bodies of ancient plants

Example: Coal is burned as a primary fuel in many parts of the world.

conifer

A type of vascular plant that produces cones

Examples: Pines, spruces, and fir.

Evergreen

A plant that does not shed its leaves on an annual basis.

Example: Pines, live oaks, firs,

cone

A reproductive structure found in conifers in which the seeds develop

Examples: pine cones, fir cones, spruce cones

wood

That part of many plants containing fibrous supportive cells

Example: redwood, pine, and many others

self-pollination

The process in which a plant fertilizes itself.

nectar

A sweet fluid produced by flowers that attracts pollinators such as hummingbirds

Example: The hummingbird was seen feeding on the nectar of the fuschia flower.

coevolution

The evolution of two different species which are dependent upon each other for survival

Example: The pronuba moth and yucca flowers

fruit

The fleshy, often edible, part of a plant that surrounds the seeds

Examples: apricots, tomatoes, egg plant, peach

dispersal

The process of scattering or dispersal of seeds

Example: The wind is one form of seed dispersal.

tree

A plant containing woody components and generally of long life and large size

Examples: pines, oaks, and maples

herbaceous

Referring to a plant that is not woody

Examples: tomatoes, marigolds, geraniums, grasses, lilies

dicot

A grouping of flowering plants in which there are two seed leaves

Examples: tomatoes, marigolds, geraniums, sunflowers

monocot

A grouping of flowering plants in which there is one seed leaf

Examples: grasses, lilies, palm trees, corn

shrub

A group of plants in which the stems are woody, but they do not attain tree size

Examples: manzanita bush, elderberry, dwarf juniper