



# 2 The Uses of Plants

## About the Lesson

- Food
- Medicines
- Perfumes
- Paper, gum and rubber
- Animal fodder
- Wood
- Fibre
- Flowers
- Other uses

Plants are very important in our lives. They are useful to us in many ways. They provide us with many things. Come, let's see what all do we get from plants.

### Food

We get most of our food from plants, such as :



Wheat



Rice



Corn



Millet

**Do You Know ?**

\* Our life depends on plants only.



Plants provide us **pulses**, such as :



Beans



Gram



Peas



Moong

Plants provide us **fruits**, such as :



Mango



Banana

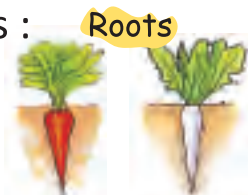


Papaya



Apple

Plants provide us **vegetables**. We eat different parts of plants as vegetables, such as :



Radish

Carrot



Onion



Ginger



Spinach



Lady's finger

Tomato

Plants provide us cooking and **edible oil** also, such as :



Mustard



Ground nut



Sunflower



Coconut

### Do You Know ?

\* We apply mustard and coconut oil in our hair as well.

Plants provide us **dry fruits** as well, such as :



Almond



Cashew nut



Walnut



Pistachio

We get **spices** from plants. Spices make our food tasty.



Clove



Turmeric

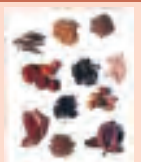


Chillies



### Remember

\* We should not use too much spices in our food. It may disturb our stomach.

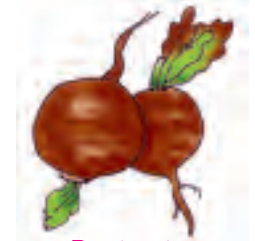


Sugar cane gives us **sugar** and **jaggery**.  
Beetroot provides us only with sugar.

Plants provide us with **tea** and **coffee** as well.



Sugar cane



Beetroot



Tea



Coffee



### Remember

\* Uttar Pradesh has the most sugar mills in India.



## Wood

Plants provide us **wood** also. It is used to make chairs, tables, bed, sofa, doors, windows, etc. The dry leaves, twigs and branches of the plants are used as **fuel**.



Furniture



Fuel



### Strange But True

\* In Japan, houses are made of wood also.



## Medicines

Some plants provide us with **medicines** as well, such as neem, basil and eucalyptus.



Neem



Basil



Eucalyptus



### Remember

\* We get many kinds of medicinal roots and herbs from plants. These are used to make medicines.



## Fibre

Some plants provide us with **fibre**. These fibres are used to make many different things, such as : cotton fibre is used to make cotton cloth. Jute fibre is used to make rope, bags and carpets. The coconut coir is also used to make ropes and doormats.



Things made of cotton

Cotton

Coconut

Things made of jute and coconut coir

## Perfumes

From some plants, we get sweet smelling oils. These oils are used to make sweet smelling things, such as :



Rose water

Perfume

Incense sticks



### Do You Know ?

- \* Rose, sandal and jasmine flowers are used to make perfumes.
- \* Rose water is put in the eyes to clean them.





## Flowers

Plants also provide us with beautiful **flowers**. They are used to decorate the house, such as :



Rose



Hibiscus



Marigold



Lotus



### Strange But True

\* The flower of queen of night blooms at midnight. Its smell spreads up to half a kilometre.



## Paper, Gum and Rubber

We get **paper**, **gum** and **rubber** also from plants. The pulp of bamboo and eucalyptus are used to make paper. Gum is provided by neem and keekar plants. Rubber is made from the latex of the rubber tree.



Rubber

Paper

Gum



Bamboo



Eucalyptus



Keekar



Rubber tree

## Animal Fodder

We also get animal **fodder** from plants. Animals eat this fodder to stay alive.



Cow



Sugar cane



Husk



Horse

## Other uses

Besides these, plants are also useful to us in many other ways. For example, banana leaves are used to serve food. The leaves of radish and turmip plants are used to decorate the salad plate.



Henna leaves are used to make decorative designs on hands and legs. Plants and bushes are grown as hedges around the gardens. Plants keep the atmosphere clean. The grass and straw to make roofs of kutchra houses are given by plants only.



*Looking Back.....*

- ❖ Plants are useful to us in many ways.
- ❖ Plants provide us food.
- ❖ We get wood, medicines, perfumes, flowers, etc. from plants.
- ❖ Plants make the atmosphere clean.
- ❖ Plants are used to decorate homes.



## Exercise

### A. Tick (✓) on the correct option : (MCQs)

1. Which plant provides us edible oil ?

- (a) Sunflower                       (b) Lady's finger                       (c) Gram

2. What do we get from sugar cane ?

- (a) Edible oil                       (b) Jaggery                       (c) Spices

3. Which plant provides us fibre to make clothes ?

- (a) Coconut                       (b) Jute                       (c) Cotton

4. The flowers of which plant are used to make perfumes ?

- (a) Rose                       (b) Sunflower                       (c) Hibiscus

### B. Answer the following questions :

1. Why are spices used in food ?
2. Where is the wood from plants used in ?
3. What all things are made from jute fibre ?

### C. Write the name of the plants :

1. Foodgrains : \_\_\_\_\_
2. Fruits : \_\_\_\_\_
3. Edible oil : \_\_\_\_\_

4. Spices : \_\_\_\_\_
5. Medicines : \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Tick (✓) the correct word :**

1. Peas are **pulses/foodgrains**.
2. Dry **fruits/sugar** is made from sugar cane.
3. Medicines are made from **neem/coconut**.
4. Paper is made from **bamboo/mango pulp**.
5. Plants keep the atmosphere **pure/impure**.

**E. Match the following :**

**A**

- Beans
- Spinach
- Walnut
- Cotton
- Keekar

**B**

- Leaf
- Cloth
- Gum
- Pulse
- Dry fruit




## Creative Task

**Do the following :**

1. Visit a nursery and make a list of plants used to make hedges and for decoration.
2. Circle the things we get from plants :  
Cloth   Bulb   Milk   Apple   Pencil   Stone   Leather   Gum
3. In the given space, make the sketch of a tree and colour it well.

**Investigation :**

 For more information log on to :  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/plant>

