25SCHOOLS

FREE LEARNING NOTES FOR ZAMBIA

GRADE 2 · TERM 2

Science

Plants

Lesson notes for learners · Competence-Based Curriculum

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Plants are all around us. Maize in the field, beans in the garden and trees at school are all plants. In this note you will learn the parts of a plant and how a plant grows.

AFTER THESE NOTES YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Name the parts of a plant
- Say what each part does
- Tell the stages of a plant's life
- Say why plants are important

KEY WORDS

Root	The part under the soil that holds the plant.
Stem	The part that supports the plant.
Seedling	A young, soft plant that has just grown from a seed.
Fruit	The part that contains seeds.

1 Parts of a plant

A plant has a root, a stem, leaves, flowers and fruit. Touch a real plant if you can. The leaves are usually flat and soft. The stem is hard. The roots are thin.

The root is found under the soil. It holds the plant. The stem supports the plant. The leaf is usually flat and soft. The flower is a colourful or sweet-smelling part. The fruit contains seeds.

Part	What it is like
Root	Under the soil, holds the plant
Stem	Supports the plant
Leaf	Usually flat and soft
Flower	Colourful or scented
Fruit	Contains seeds

Figure 1. Parts of a plant

2 How a plant grows

A small seed is planted in the soil. It drinks water and grows into a seedling. The seedling is young and soft. It becomes a big plant with flowers. Later the plant makes fruits with seeds inside.

A dry seed, such as a bean or a maize seed, is small and hard. The seeds in the fruit can grow into new plants. This is why we call it a life cycle.



Figure 2. The life cycle of a plant

3 Why plants are important

Plants give us food, medicine, shelter and income. Many families in Zambia grow maize and beans for food and sell some at the market.

TRY THIS

Plant a bean seed in a pot of soil and give it water. Touch it each week and tell a friend what stage it has reached.

REMEMBER

- A plant has root, stem, leaf, flower and fruit
- The root holds the plant and the stem supports it
- A plant grows from seed to seedling to adult plant to fruit and seeds
- Plants give us food, medicine, shelter and income

? Check yourself

1. Name three parts of a plant.
2. Which part holds the plant in the soil.
3. What comes after the seed.
4. Name one thing plants give us.

5. Mulenga plants a bean seed in a small pot at home and waters it every day. After some days a young soft plant comes out. (a) What was planted. (b) What is the young plant called. (c) What must he keep giving it.
6. Chanda touches a plant at school. One part is under the soil and thin. Another part is flat and soft. (a) Name the part under the soil. (b) Name the flat and soft part. (c) What does the part under the soil do.

ANSWERS

1. Root, stem, leaf, flower or fruit.
2. The root.
3. The seedling.
4. Food, medicine, shelter or income.
5. (a) A seed. (b) A seedling. (c) Water.
6. (a) The root. (b) The leaf. (c) It holds the plant.

Written by 25Schools to follow the Grade 2 Science syllabus of the Zambian competence-based curriculum. Free for learners to read, download and share. More notes and quizzes at 25schools.com.