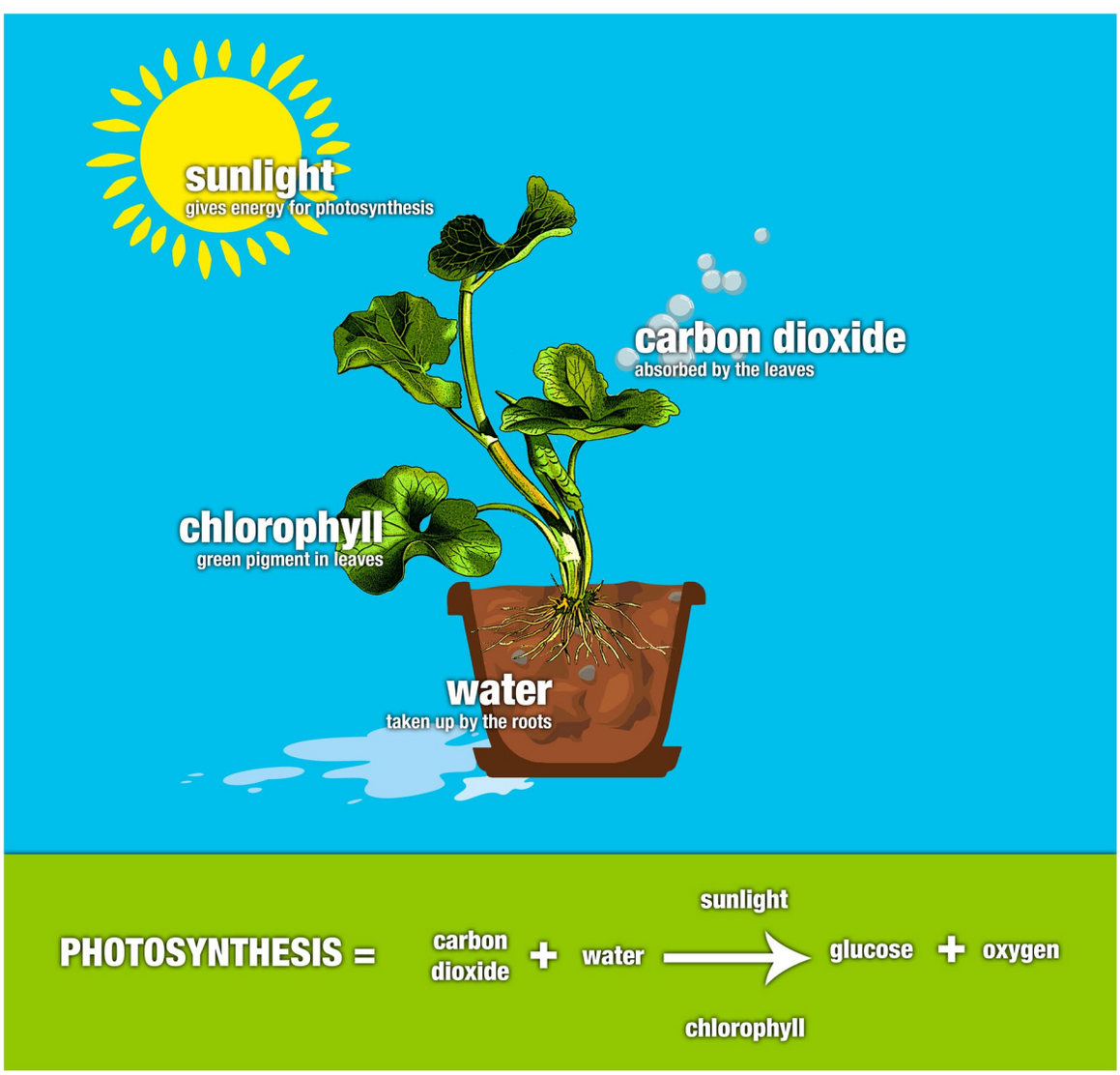
Colours Leaves of green

Have you ever wondered why leaves are green? It's because they're filled with a special pigment (natural colour) called chlorophyll. Chlorophyll absorbs blue and red light and reflects green light to make plants appear green. Other plants parts like stems contain chlorophyll too but in smaller amounts then leaves.

So, why is chlorophyll special? Plants need chlorophyll to make food for themselves through a process called photosynthesis. Photosynthesis takes place in the parts of the cells which hold the chlorophyll.

Photosynthesis is the process where plants use energy from sunlight to turn carbon dioxide and water into a type of sugar called glucose. They use glucose for energy to keep them growing. Oxygen is made during the process too but plants don't need it so they release it into the air for humans to breathe!



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Can you complete these sentences about photosynthesis? Write the words in the spaces provided. You can use the introduction to help you.

_____ is a green pigment found in plants.

_____ are natural colours from plants or animals.

_____ is how plants turn water and carbon dioxide into glucose.

_____ is a type of sugar which plants use for energy.

_____ is a gas taken up by plants during photosynthesis.

_____ is a gas released by plants through photosynthesis.

_____ is a liquid used by plants during photosynthesis.

_____ is the energy plants use for photosynthesis.

carbon dioxide
chlorophyll
glucose
oxygen
photosynthesis
pigments
sunlight
water

chlorophyll is a green pigment found in plants.

pigments are natural colours from plants or animals.

photosynthesis is how plants turn water and carbon dioxide into glucose.

glucose is a type of sugar which plants use for energy.

carbon dioxide is a gas taken up by plants during photosynthesis.

oxygen is a gas released by plants through photosynthesis.

water is a liquid used by plants during photosynthesis.

sunlight is the energy plants use for photosynthesis.