

Sunflowers



Focus Morphemes

Suffixes	-s, -es
Pronunciation	The suffix -s is sometimes pronounced /s/ (roots) and sometimes /z/ (seeds).
	The suffix -es is sometimes pronounced /z/ (leaves) and sometimes /iz/ (boxes).

Etymology of -s and -es

Origin	Anglo-Saxon
Meaning	(Both suffixes change nouns from singular to plural.)
Examples: seeds boxes	Look at the word <i>seed</i> . If we have more than one seed, we add the suffix -s to make the word plural: seeds .
	If a word ends in <i>sh</i> , <i>ch</i> , <i>s</i> , <i>x</i> , or <i>z</i> , we add the suffix -es instead of just -s. For example, <i>box</i> becomes boxes .

Vocabulary

- sunflowers
- colours
- butterflies
- shells
- buds
- roots
- leaves
- dishes

Activating Prior Knowledge

- Where have you seen **sunflowers**?
- What do you know about **sunflowers**?

Sunflowers

Sunflowers are big, beautiful **flowers** that grow in many **parts** of the world. Their bright **colours** often attract **butterflies**.

The Life Cycle of a Sunflower

1. Seeds

Sunflowers begin as **seeds**. After about three **days** in the ground, the **shells** of the **seeds** open. Then, **roots** begin to grow down into the soil.



2. Seedlings

In one or two **weeks**, a seedling appears above the soil. As the seedling grows, its **leaves** get longer and wider.

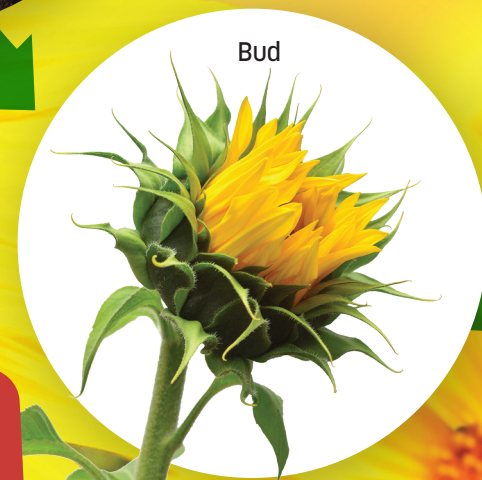


What Do Sunflowers Need to Grow?

Just like other **plants**, **sunflowers** need air, water, light, heat, **nutrients**, and space to grow.

3. Buds

Buds begin to form. As the **buds** open, the yellow **petals** can be seen.



5. Wilting Plant

After a few **months**, the plant will wilt and die. The **seeds** make the flower very heavy, and it begins to droop. Then, the **seeds** fall to the ground to begin the cycle once again.



Wilting plant

4. Adult Plant

An adult sunflower plant has large **flowers**. **Seeds** grow in the middle of the flower.



Adult plant



Time to Talk

Sunflower **seeds** are a tasty treat! Some people eat them in **dishes** such as **salads**. What other **seeds** do people eat?

Did You Know?

Sunflowers can grow *very* tall. A man from St. Marys, Ontario, grew a sunflower that was more than **7 metres** tall. It was taller than his house!

Word Study

In your Word Study notebook, add today's **morphemes**.

New Morphemes	Type of Morpheme	Origin	Meaning
-s, -es	suffix	Anglo-Saxon	(Both suffixes change nouns from singular to plural.)

Spelling Conventions

- If a noun ends in a vowel and the letter *y*, add the suffix *-s*.

Example: key + s → **keys**

Write word **sums** to create the plural form of these **nouns**:

boy, tray, monkey.

- If a noun ends in a consonant and the letter *y*, change the *y* to an *i* and add the suffix *-es*.

Example: butterfly/ⁱ + es → **butterflies**

Write word **sums** to create the plural form of these **nouns**: *baby,*

daisy, family.

Writing Connections

The life cycle on **pages 2 and 3** uses both **pictures** and **words**. Draw and label an adult sunflower plant. Be sure to show all these **parts** of the plant: **roots**, stem, **leaves**, flower, **petals**, **seeds**. Remember to give your diagram a title.

Vocabulary Connections

Remember, *singular* means there is one of something. Example: *flower*

Plural means there is more than one. Example: **flowers**



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