

Writing Project

Write Like a Scientist

Write an Article

Write an article that explains what you think is so amazing about plants. Add your article to a class science magazine to share with others in your school.

Study a Model

An article includes facts and details about a topic. Read this article that Mariah wrote about plants.

Plants Are Everywhere

by Mariah Ruiz

Plants are amazing because they can grow in so many different places. We know that plants grow in soil, but they pop up in other places, too. Did you know that seeds can sprout in tiny cracks on sidewalks? Some daisies, for example, grow big enough to break the pavement!

Other plants, like seaweed, live completely underwater. There are even plants, like mistletoe, that grow on other plants!

So, the next time you're outside, take a look around. You might see a plant or two growing in the most unusual places!

The **topic sentence** tells the main idea.

The **concluding sentence** connects all the ideas. It makes the writing complete.

Each **fact or detail** supports the main idea. The writing is focused.

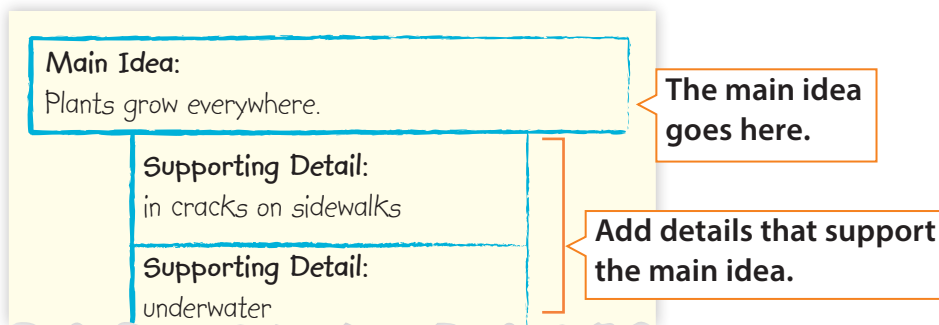
Prewrite

1. **Choose a Topic** What topic will you write about in your article? Discuss with a partner to choose the best one.

Language Frames	
Tell Your Ideas • Plants can _____. That might be a good topic. • I know a lot about _____, so I'll write about that. • My favorite plant is _____. I would like to say more about it.	Respond to Ideas • I think/do not think that is a good topic because _____. • _____ sounds interesting. Tell me more. • I like that plant, too. I would like to read about _____.

2. **Gather Information** Find all the facts and details you'll need for your article. Do they all tell about the same topic?
3. **Get Organized** Use a main idea and details diagram to help you organize what you'll say.

Main Idea and Details Diagram



Draft

Use your main idea and details diagram to write your draft.

- Turn your main idea into a topic sentence.
- Turn your details into sentences that tell more about the main idea.

Writing Project, continued

Revise

- 1. Read, Retell, Respond** Read your draft aloud to a partner. Your partner listens and retells what your article is about. Next, talk about ways to improve your writing.

Language Frames

Retell

- The topic is _____.
- Most of the facts and details tell about _____.

Make Suggestions

- The detail about _____ does not tell about _____. Can you take out that detail?
- I like the examples you used to tell about _____.

- 2. Make Changes** Think about your draft and your partner's suggestions. Then use revision marks to make your changes.
 - Delete details that don't tell about the topic or support the main idea.

Did you know that seeds can sprout in tiny cracks on sidewalks?

~~There are many plants near my house.~~

- Add details or examples that support your main idea and keep your writing focused.

Some daisies, for example, grow big enough to break the pavement!

Did you know that seeds can sprout in tiny cracks on sidewalks?

Spelling Tip



To make most nouns plural, add **-s** or **-es**. For most nouns ending in **y**, change **y** to **i** and add **-es**.

Edit and Proofread

Work with a partner to edit and proofread your article. Check the spelling of plural nouns. Use revision marks to show your changes.

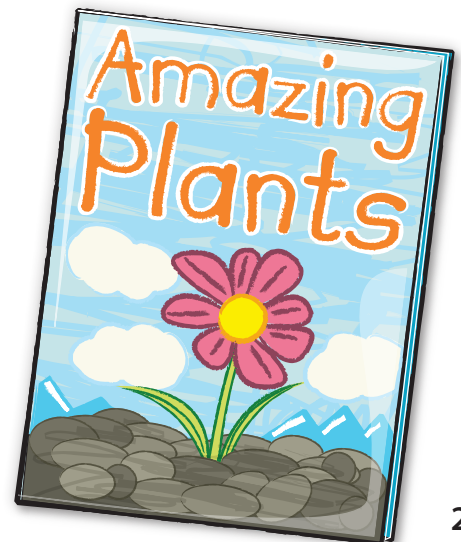
Present

- 1. On Your Own** Make a final copy of your article. Then choose a way to share it with your classmates. You might want to read your article aloud, or you can just retell it from memory.

Presentation Tips

If you are the speaker...	If you are the listener...
Speak slowly and clearly.	Take notes to help you understand and remember.
Provide more details if your listeners do not understand what you thought was amazing.	Make inferences based on what you know.

- 2. With a Group** Work with your classmates to put all the articles into a science magazine. Make several copies to share with others in your school. You can post your magazine online, or turn it into a series of web pages.





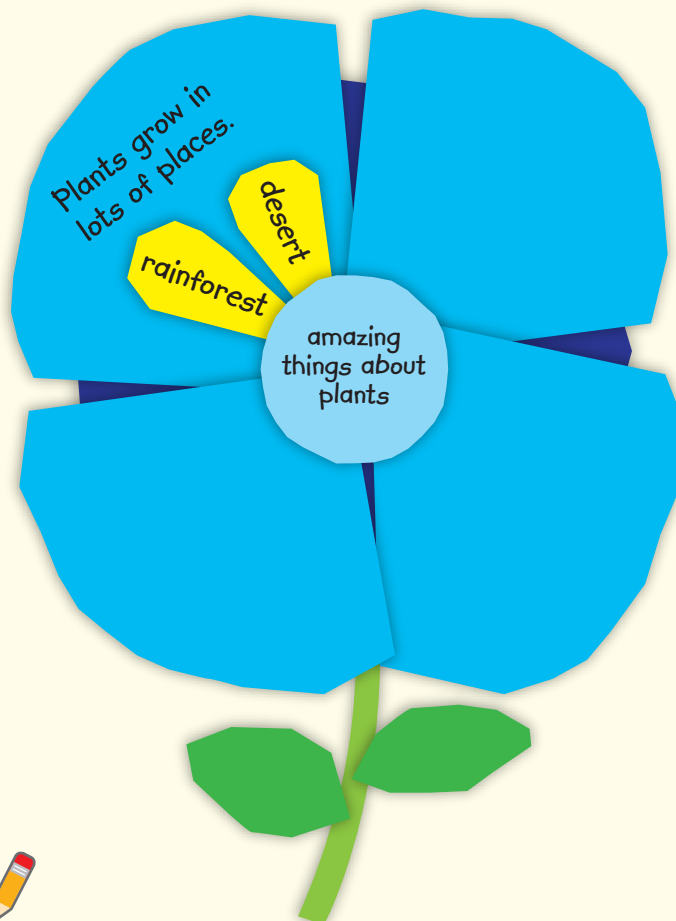
? **BIG** Question

What is so amazing
about plants?

Talk Together

In this unit, you found lots of answers to the **Big Question**. Now, use your concept map to discuss the **Big Question** with the class.

Concept Map



Write a Journal Entry

Choose one amazing thing about plants from your concept map. Write a journal entry about it.

Share Your Ideas

Choose one of these ways to share your ideas about the **Big Question**.

Write It!



Make a Cartoon

Draw a cartoon about an amazing plant. Write a caption to show what is so amazing about the plant. Explain your cartoon to the class.



Talk About It!



Talk Show

Choose classmates to talk about each selection in this unit. Each guest on the talk show gives amazing information they have learned about plants. Use formal language.

Do It!



Perform a Skit

Write a skit about people who work with plants. Show why the people think plants are amazing. Decide whether to use formal or informal language. Perform your skit for the class.

Write It!



Plant Poem

Think about your favorite plant. Write a haiku about it. Count the syllables in each line. Then read your poem aloud to a partner.

