

Parts of the Plant Lab (No Plants Necessary!)

Age: 2nd-6th grade

Purpose: The student will be able to:

1. Identify the parts of a plant.
2. Recognize plants as part of their diet.
3. Identify plant parts in every day foods.

Materials:

- Color photos of food items cut out of magazines.
- White paper on which to paste food items.
- Permanent marker to point to and number each food (plant) part to be identified.
- A numbered answer sheet, for students to write down the plant parts.



Description:

This activity is meant to familiarize students with the plants in their diet and recognize the parts of plants in other settings (other than a plant diagram). When choosing food pictures, go for some simple ones with just piles of strawberries or an apple, but also choose more complex foods. A hamburger meal can provide an onion (root), lettuce (leaf), tomato (fruit), sesame seeds on bun (seeds) and even the bun itself is technically made from wheat, though they may not be able to name the part of the wheat used for making flour. The discussion what a huge role plants really play in our diets, even when we avoid our broccoli.

Procedure:

1. Layout the different food pages around the room.
2. Have students file by each and label the plant parts of the plants on their answer sheet.
3. After everyone has completed naming all the plant parts go over the answers as a group.

As a treat, try the **Plant Party Activity** (cut vegetables and dip) as a follow up to reinforce their learning.