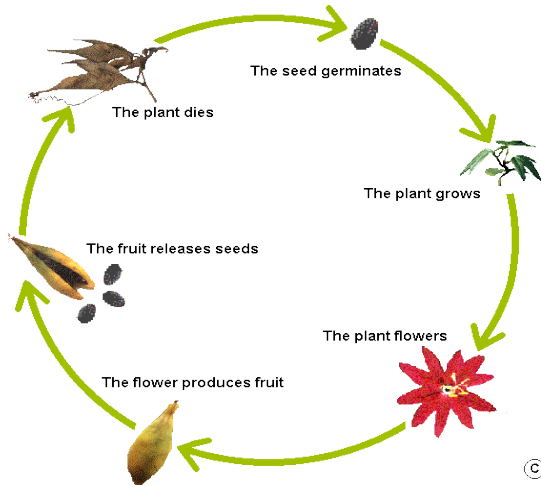


LIFE CYCLE OF A PLANT

A life cycle shows how a living thing grows and changes. A plant's life begins with the seed. With water, right temperature and right location, the seed grows.



It becomes a seedling. Roots push down into the ground to get water and minerals. The stem reaches for the sun, and leaves begin to unfold. A bud appears.

Some seeds have an outer layer called a **seed coat**, which provides protection and food. When a seed grows, a small root begins to grow downward and a shoot grows upward. When the shoot hits the surface, the plant is called a sprout. The sprout uses water and nutrients from the soil along with sunlight and air to grow and change into a seedling.

How a plant grows from a seed



A **seedling** is a small plant with few leaves. Later the seedling changes into a young adult plant.

At this stage, the plant is bigger and may have more leaves. Thin branches will develop **on young adult** trees. Over time, the young adult plant will grow into an adult plant.



The adult plant then produces flowers, vegetables or fruits. The flowers are then pollinated in many ways – by bees, moths, butterflies, insects and even by the wind. The pollinated flower turns into fruit. The new seeds are inside the fruit. The ripe fruit drops to the ground and the cycle begins again.