Photosynthesis Interactive Science Notebook
Plant Diagram

Light

Carbon Dioxide

Oxygen

Water

Photosynthesis Interactive Science Notebook
Photosynthesis in Plants Reading

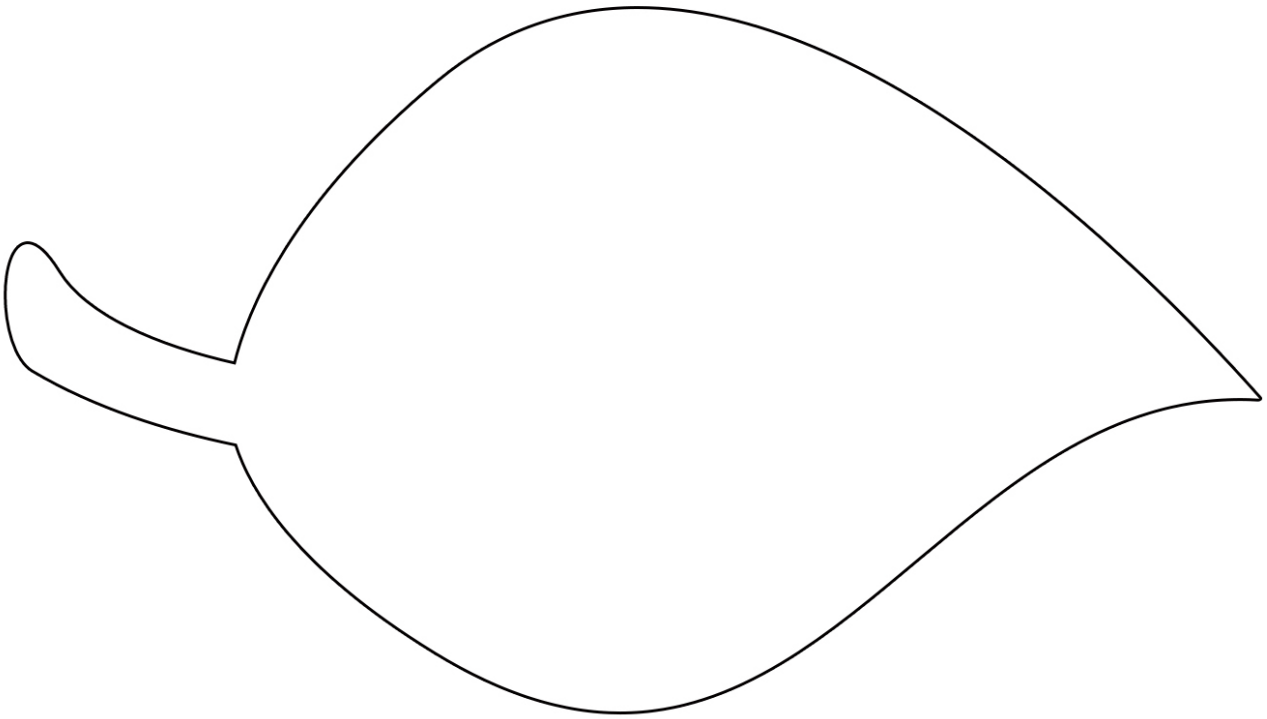
Photosynthesis in Plants

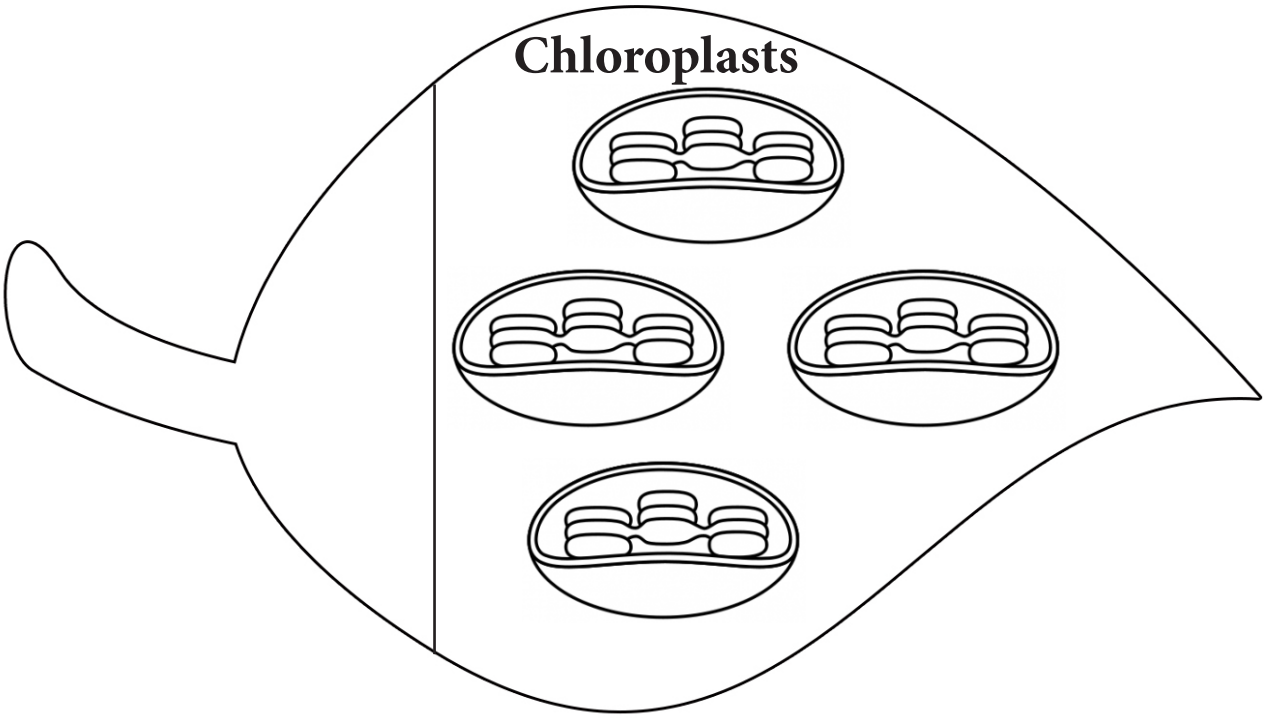
Plants perform **photosynthesis** to make the food and energy they need for healthy growth and development. Photosynthesis is the process by which green plants transform light energy into chemical energy. Photosynthesis takes place in the leaves of plants.

Plants need water, carbon dioxide, and light to perform photosynthesis. The roots of the plant absorb water. The water travels through the stems to the leaves. Carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere through microscopic holes in the leaf called **stomata**. The leaves are made up of cells. Inside these cells are structures called **chloroplasts**. Each chloroplast contains **chlorophyll**, a chemical that gives leaves their green color.

Chlorophyll absorbs energy from light which is used to split water molecules into hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrogen is combined with carbon dioxide to form glucose, a sugar that is used as food for the plant. The glucose that is not immediately used is stored in the leaves, roots, and fruits of the plant for later use. Oxygen, a **byproduct** of the photosynthesis process, is released through the stomata into the atmosphere.

Photosynthesis Interactive Science Notebook
Leaf Diagram





Photosynthesis Interactive Science Notebook Arrows