Name: Date: Score: / 6

Photosynthesis: Reading Comprehension

Nonfiction: Science · about 180 words

Read the passage. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

🌿 Photosynthesis

Every time you eat an apple or a salad, you are eating energy that started with the sun. Plants make their own food through a process called photosynthesis. The word comes from two Greek words: photo, meaning "light," and synthesis, meaning "putting together."

To make food, a plant needs three things: sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide. Water travels up from the roots through tiny tubes in the stem. Carbon dioxide, a gas in the air, enters through tiny holes on the underside of the leaves. Inside the leaves is a green substance called chlorophyll. Chlorophyll captures energy from sunlight.

The plant uses that energy to turn water and carbon dioxide into a kind of sugar called glucose. Glucose is the plant's food. It helps the plant grow leaves, stems, flowers, and fruit.

Photosynthesis also makes something people and animals need: oxygen. The plant releases oxygen into the air through its leaves. Every breath you take contains oxygen that plants and other living things like algae have made. Without photosynthesis, there would be almost no food or oxygen on Earth.

1. **Main idea:** What is this passage mostly about?
   A. how to grow a garden B. the Greek language C. how plants make food and oxygen
   D. why leaves fall in autumn

2. **Detail:** What three things does a plant need to make food?
   A. sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide B. oxygen, milk, and light C. soil, rocks, and wind
   D. sugar, salt, and air

3. **Detail:** How does carbon dioxide enter the plant?
   A. through the flowers B. through the roots C. through the bark
   D. through tiny holes on the underside of the leaves

4. **Vocabulary:** Chlorophyll is...
   A. a green substance that captures energy from sunlight B. a tiny tube in the stem C. a gas in the air
   D. a kind of sugar

5. **Detail:** What does photosynthesis release into the air?
   A. water B. glucose C. oxygen D. carbon dioxide

6. **Inference:** Why would there be almost no food on Earth without photosynthesis?

ANSWER KEY

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5. **Detail:** What does photosynthesis release into the air?
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6. **Inference:** Why would there be almost no food on Earth without photosynthesis?
   Plants make food through photosynthesis, and people and animals eat plants or animals that eat plants.