

Phenomenal Photosynthesis

Only about 1% of the average tree is actually alive, with the remaining 99% made up of dead wood cells.

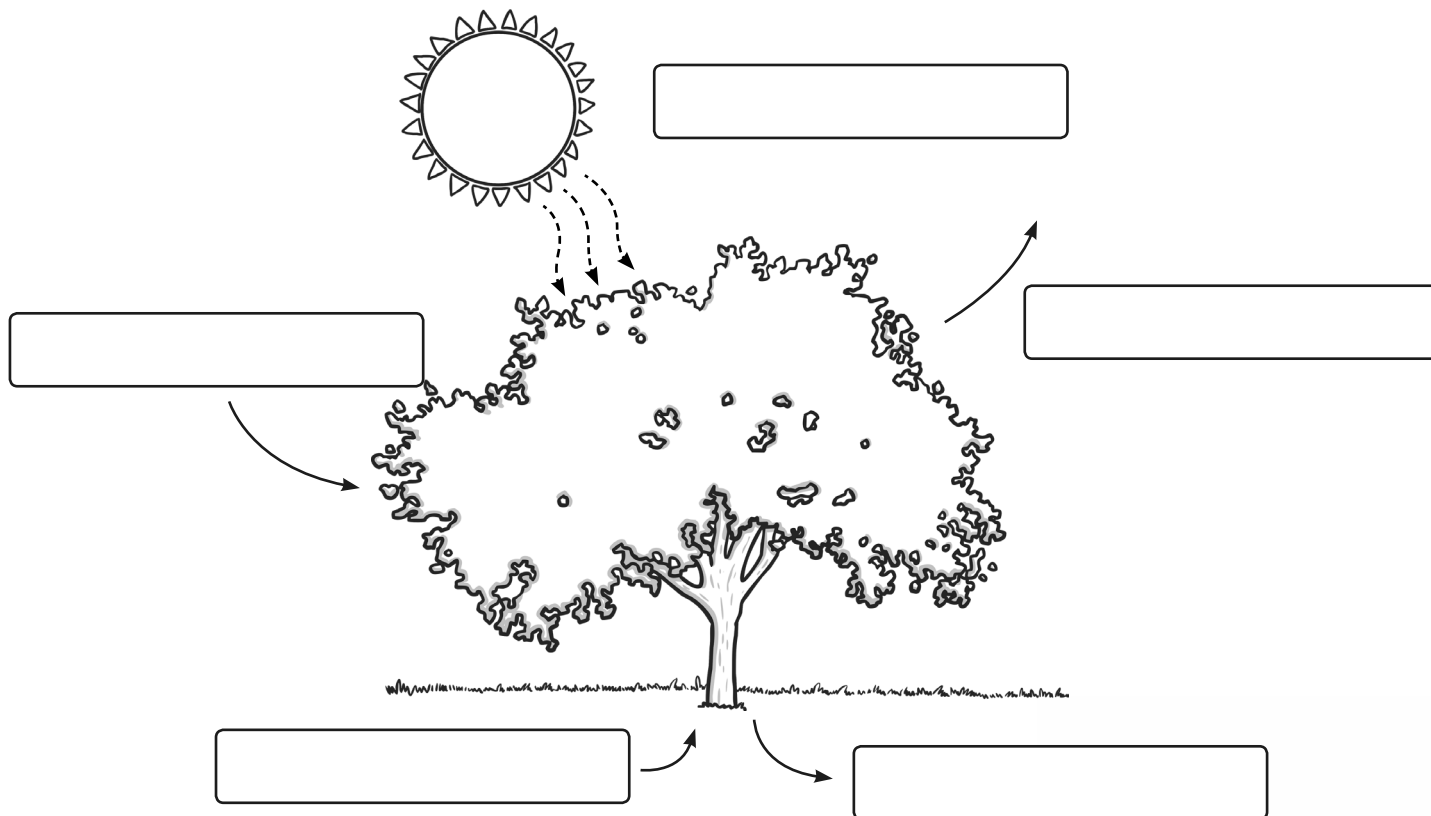
Read the following information:

Food provides a source of energy for living processes, enabling them to grow and survive.

Green plants are able to grow by producing their own food. Green plants are known as 'producers' as they 'capture' light energy from the sun, using the green pigment in their leaves called chlorophyll.

This energy is used to produce sugars, by the process called photosynthesis. The leaves on plants, including trees, are their food factories. Using energy from the sun, they take the water that the roots have sucked from the ground and mix it with the carbon dioxide in the air to make food for the plant (a sugar called glucose, which is either used in respiration or converted to starch and stored), and release oxygen. Plants are therefore said to produce their own food.

Using the information you have read, look at the picture below and fill in the names of the processes involved in photosynthesis. Choose words from the list at the bottom of the page.



Word List
carbon dioxide
oxygen
water
glucose
light energy

You could also try to find out:

- how long trees can live for;
- whether trees die of old age;
- which are the fastest growing trees;
- how trees create the conditions essential for life.

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Answers

