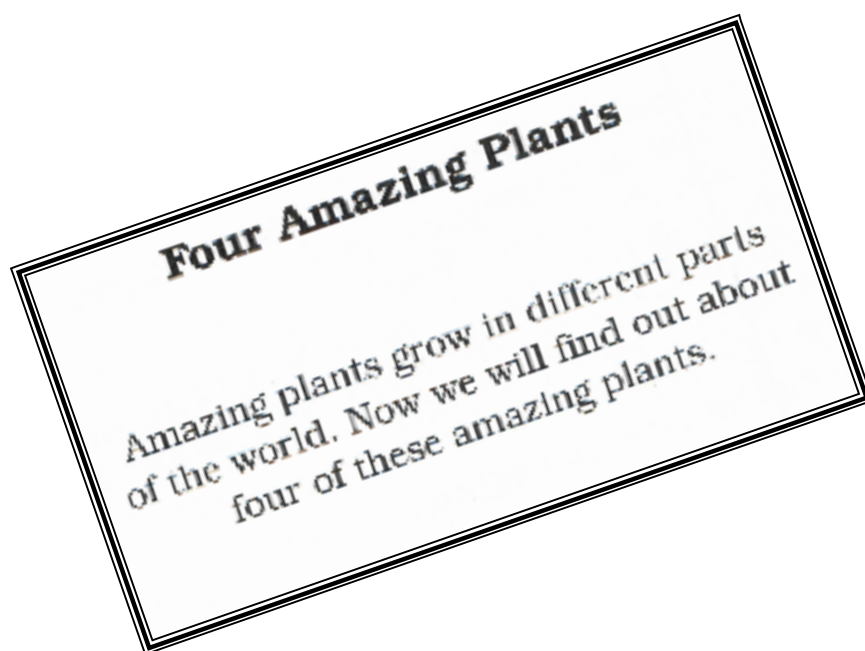


Close Reading and Text Dependent Questions in Science

Four Amazing Plants (Organisms – Grade 1)

The text selection, *Four Amazing Plants*, is found in the *STC Organisms Teacher Guide*.



Look in the Student Learning Outcome (SLO) Documents for guidance on when this should be taught. These can be found on the BPS Science Department's website: <http://bpsscience.weebly.com/> You will find the Student Learning Outcomes documents organized there by grade level.

Four Amazing Plants

Amazing plants grow in different parts of the world. Now we will find out about four of these amazing plants.

The *Rafflesia* (rah-flee-zee-uh):

A plant with the largest flower in the world

Borneo is the name of an island in the Pacific Ocean.

A giant flower lives in the jungles there.

It is the *Rafflesia*, or monster flower.

The flower can grow to be 1 to 1½ m, or 3 to 4 feet, wide.

It is a beautiful pinkish-red color with orange markings.

The flower is the only part of the plant that lives above the ground.

The rest of the plant lives underground.

Put yourself in the picture: Draw yourself smelling the monster flower. But hold your nose! It smells very bad.



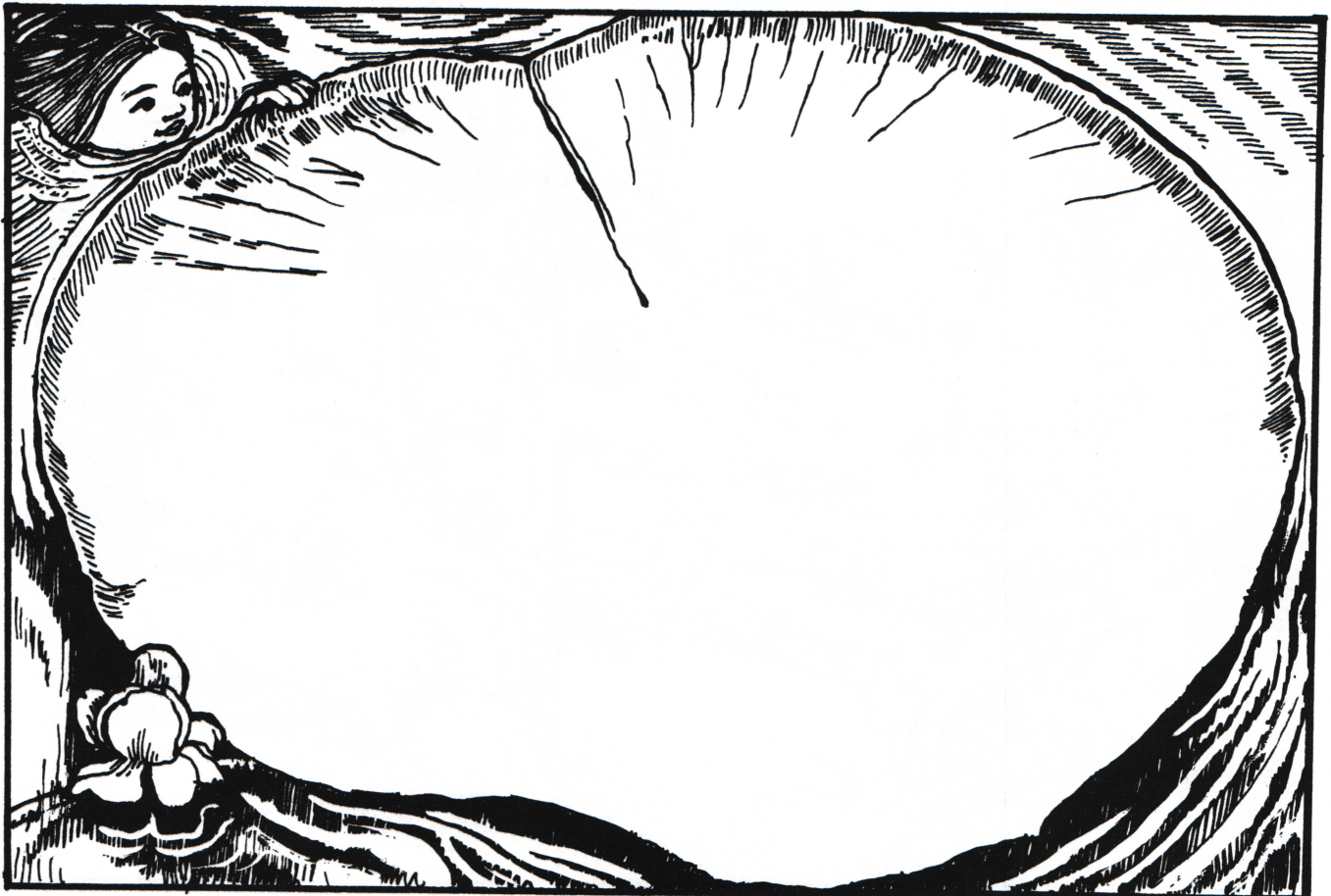
The Giant Water Lily:

The largest water plant in the world

The giant water lily lives in still waters of the Amazon River in South America. This plant's roots and most of its stem are under water. But the leaves and flowers of the giant water lily float on top of the water. Its floating leaves can be big enough for you to lie on. But not strong enough to hold you.

Put yourself in the picture:

Lie on the giant water lily leaf.



The Saguaro (sah-gwah-row) Cactus:

The largest cactus in the world

A tall green plant grows in the deserts of Arizona, California, and Mexico.

This plant is called the saguaro cactus.

It can grow to be 50 feet (about 15 m) tall.

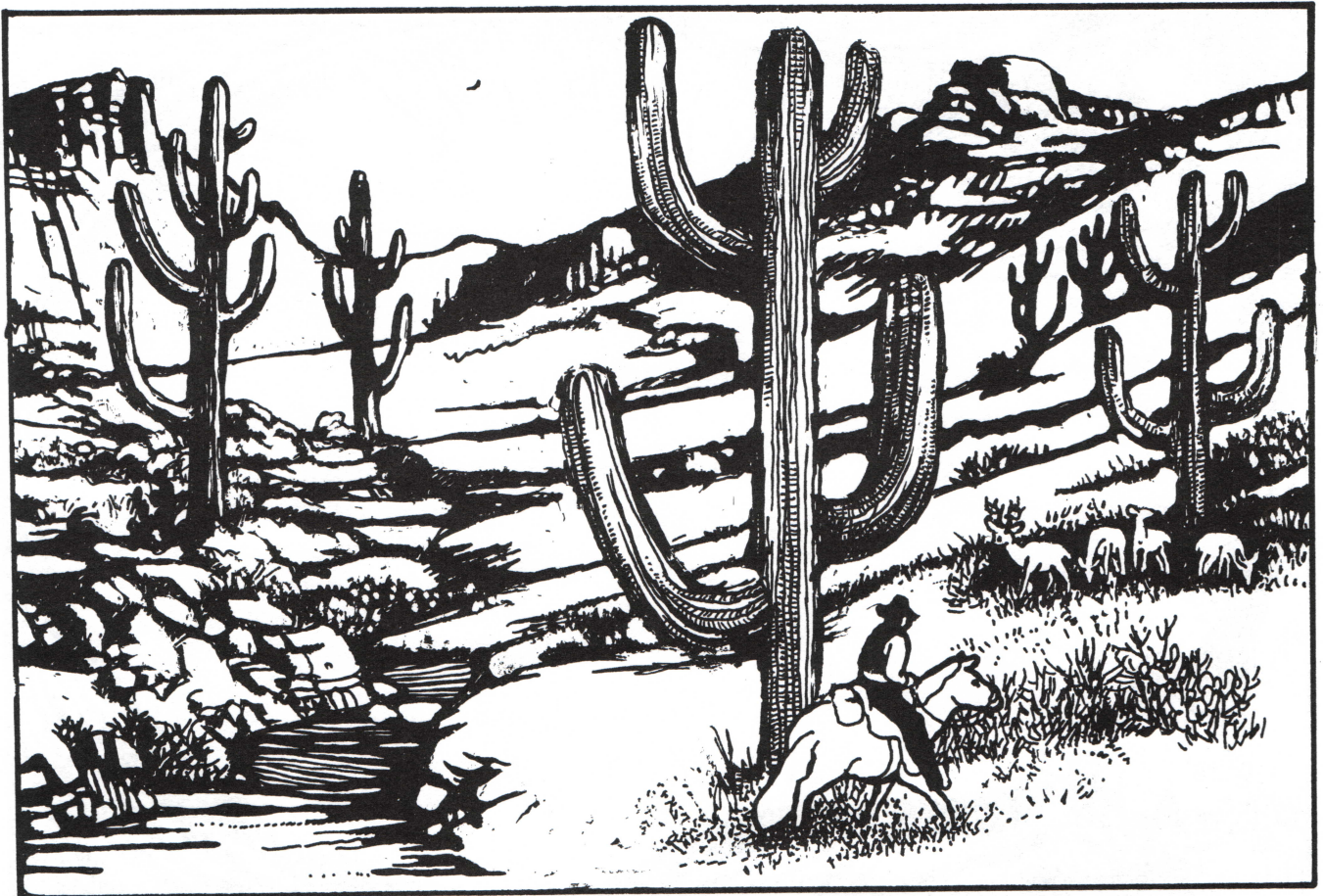
That makes it the largest cactus in the world.

It does not rain much in the desert. When it does rain, this is what the cactus does: its body stretches to hold extra water.

Put yourself in the picture:

Draw yourself next to the big saguaro cactus.

Where will the top of your head be?



The Venus Flytrap:

A plant that eats animals

A plant that eats flies? Yes, it is true.

The Venus flytrap lives in North Carolina and South Carolina. It has leaves that snap shut to trap insects inside. This is how it happens.

Each leaf of the Venus flytrap has six hairs on it.

When a fly lands on a leaf

and touches a hair once, nothing happens.

But what if the fly touches a hair twice?

Or two hairs at the same time? SNAP, the leaves shut!

The fly is trapped.

Put yourself in the picture:

Feed the Venus flytrap. It eats mostly insects.



Four Amazing Plants (Organisms – Grade 1)

Student Questions

1. Where in the world does Rafflesia grow?
2. Why is the Rafflesia called the monster flower?
3. How big are the leaves of the Giant Water Lily?
4. What do you predict will happen to the insect pictured sitting on the leaf of the Venus flytrap?
5. Why did the author choose the word SNAP to describe the Venus flytrap leaves shutting?

Four Amazing Plants (Organisms – Grade 1) Sample Answers

1. Where in the world does Rafflesia grow?

Rafflesia grows in the jungles of Borneo, an island in the Pacific Ocean.

2. Why is the Rafflesia called the monster flower?

It is called the monster flower because it is such a large flower. It is the largest flower in the world.

3. How big are the leaves of the Giant Water Lily?

Its leaves are so big you could lay on it.

4. What do you predict will happen to the insect pictured sitting on the leaf of the Venus flytrap?

I predict the insect in the picture will get trapped and eaten by the Venus flytrap.

5. Why did the author choose the word SNAP to describe the Venus flytrap leaves shutting?

The word SNAP describes how quickly the leaves will shut on an insect.