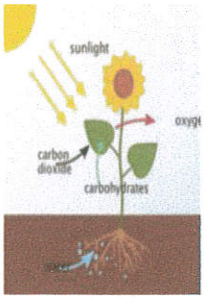
Coastal Interpretive Center

Ocean Shores · Washington

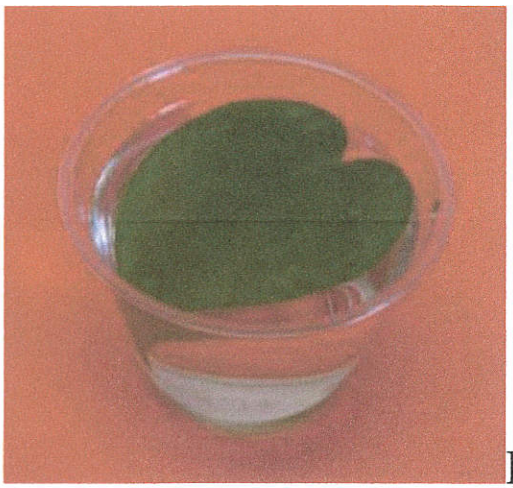


Photosynthesis:

Have you ever wondered why plants are so important to all living things? We need plants for food and so does wild life.
We are all connected, plants need carbon dioxide to breathe and humans expel carbon dioxide. Humans and animals need oxygen to breath, and plants expel oxygen.
Plants and humans and animals all need sunlight and water. We all have veins that either supplies us with blood with oxygen, or water.

A simple experiment will show us just how water runs through a plant.
You will need an 8oz. glass or jar.
Cut flowers: Daffodils/carnations/or green romaine lettuce/celery.
Food coloring and water.

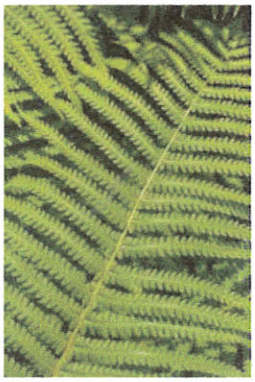
Fill your container with water, drop food coloring (red or blue is best) until you have nice colorful water in your container. Cut the stem or base of your flower or lettuce leaf at an angle, and place in the water.
Allow your experiment to sit over night. What do you think will happen?



How does a plant expel oxygen?

This experiment will show how leaves send oxygen into the environment.
You will need:
1 large leaf
Bowl or glass
Water

1 leaf from a house plant, a nice fat one is best
Place the leaf on top of a container of water so it floats.
Place the container by a window, and leave it alone for 1 hour.
After an hour, check on your leaf….does it have tiny bubbles around it?
You guessed it! Bubbles equal oxygen!



Chlorophyll makes plants green. It's basically a group of green pigments used by organisms that convert sunlight into energy via

photosynthesis. ... Without this energy, plants would be unable to initiate the process of photosynthesis, which converts water and carbon dioxide into starches that plants can use for food.

Did you know you can create art with chlorophyll?

You will need:
8 leaves from your yard (thinner leaves work best)
1 table spoon
1 sheet white paper
Fold the paper in half, take the leaves and roll them in your hand then place them in between the fold of your paper.
Grab the spoon and pound the paper hard with the round part of your spoon. Do you see the paper turning green? You guessed it! That's chlorophyll!

Let us know how you did! Stay tuned for more projects.....