

Name:

Date:

From Seed to Sunflower

A tall sunflower begins life as a small seed. Growing from a seed into a flowering plant takes time and happens in several stages.

First, a sunflower seed is planted in warm, moist soil. The seed absorbs water and begins to open. Soon, a tiny root grows downward into the soil.

Next, a small shoot pushes upward towards the sunlight. The first leaves appear, allowing the young plant to use sunlight to make food. As the roots grow deeper, they collect more water and nutrients from the soil.

Over the next several weeks, the sunflower grows taller and develops more leaves. Eventually, a small green bud appears at the top of the stem.

The bud slowly opens into a large yellow flower. Bees and other insects visit the flower and help with pollination. Finally, seeds begin to develop in the centre of the sunflower. Once they are fully grown, these seeds can fall to the ground or be collected and planted.

The life cycle can then begin all over again.



1. What happens first after a sunflower seed is planted?

2. What grows after the tiny root begins to grow?

3. Which happens first: a green bud appears or the sunflower produces seeds?

4. What happens after the green bud appears?

5. Put these events in the correct order by numbering them 1–4.

___ A large yellow flower opens.

___ A tiny root begins to grow.

___ Seeds develop in the center of the flower.

___ A small shoot pushes towards the sunlight.



Answers

1. The seed absorbs water and begins to open.
2. A small shoot grows upward towards the sunlight.
3. A green bud appears first.
4. The bud slowly opens into a large yellow flower.
5. Correct order:
 1. A tiny root begins to grow.
 2. A small shoot pushes towards the sunlight.
 3. A large yellow flower opens.
 4. Seeds develop in the centre of the flower.