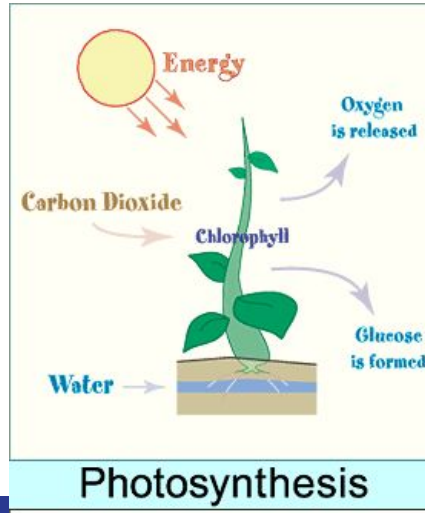


Plants For Food and Fibre

Unit 2 - Topic 1

People and Plants

- People use **plants for food, materials and as a fibre**
- Plants are an important part of the ecosystem and produce the **oxygen that we need through photosynthesis**
- Plants also help to **clean and filter water** for the ecosystem to use



Plants for Food

- Some plants are **eaten for food, such as corn and potatoes**
- Other plants are broken down to create new materials that can be added or mixed to create foods such as **vegetable oil, seaweed extract** and sugar from beets
- List 5 foods that you can think of that are related to plants



Plants for Fibre

- Many plants are used to **create fibres** for our clothing, although **synthetic** fibres are becoming more and more popular
- **Cotton** is a **natural fibre** that has been grown and used by humans for centuries
- **Cotton fibre** comes from the **plant's seeds**
- The plant uses **silky fibres** to spread its **seeds using the wind**, these fibres are what creates the cotton we use for clothes



Plants for Fibre

- **Hemp** has been used for centuries to create jeans, paper and even rope
- Hemp has a **less negative impact** on the environment than a lot of other plants, such as **quick growth, and a large yield**



- **Flax** is a food and fibre crop
- Flax **fibres are taken from the stem** of the plant and are **2 or 3 times as strong as cotton**
- Flax is **grown in the Prairie provinces** for linseed oil, which is used as a drying oil in paints and printer inks



Plants for Medicine

- More than **7000 medicines** are made from plants
- **Aboriginal people** have used plants for medicine for centuries
- The **painkiller Aspirin** comes from a chemical found in the bark of the **willow tree**
- **Poppy seeds** contain the chemicals to create **morphine**, one of the most **powerful painkillers** that we have made



Plants for Transportation and Construction

- **Rubber** is one of the most **important materials** that we use today
- When humans figured out how to turn **liquid rubber** (latex) into the hard, flexible material we were able to make planes, roads and space ships
- **Natural rubber** comes from the Brazilian **rubber tree**
- Because this tree is the only natural rubber source, we are using oil to create **synthetic rubber** for tires



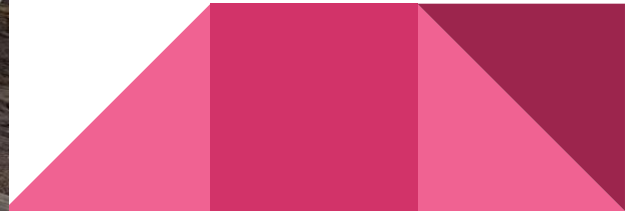
Transportation

- Plants have been used for **water transportation by Aboriginals** for many years
- The boats were often carved out of cedar wood, and sealed with **spruce gum**
- Many plants are **natural water repellants** to help the boats travel **smoother**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=017H8hrVfT0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPM8OR6W6WE>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8q2xZfrUwbc>



Construction

- About **90% of houses** in North America are made of **wood**
- Most **wood for construction** comes from **softwood trees**, found in British Columbia



Plants for Fuel

- **Wood and coal** can be used to create energy
- Many third world countries still **cook over wood fires**
- **Coal and oil** are created from **decomposed and compressed plant** material
- Some plants can create ethanol or methanol, which is used as a liquid fuel
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_jY--ZwKFA



Questions

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