

# Plant Life Cycles

## Contents

<i>Preview the Book</i> .....	2
<b>What Is a Plant Life Cycle?</b> .....	3
About Plants .....	4
About Plant Life Cycles .....	5
<i>How to Read Diagrams</i> .....	6
<b>How Do Plants Grow From Seeds?</b> .....	7
About Seeds .....	8
Seed Dispersal .....	9
Seed Germination .....	10
Flowering Plants .....	11
Conifers .....	14
<i>Compare and Contrast</i> .....	16
<b>How Do Plants Grow From Spores?</b> .....	17
About Spores .....	18
Mosses .....	18
Ferns .....	19
<i>Main Idea and Details</i> .....	20
<b>What Other Ways Can Plants Reproduce?</b> ..	21
<b>Glossary</b> .....	24



# Glossary

**angiosperm** (AN-jee-uh-spurm) a plant that produces flowers and develops seeds inside fruit; means “covered seed” (8)

**conifer** (KON-uh-fur) a plant that produces seeds on cones and may have needle-like leaves (14)

**embryo** (EM-bree-oh) a living thing in its earliest stages of development, such as a new plant inside a seed (8)

**fertilization** (fur-tl-i-ZAY-shuhn) the joining of a male sex cell (sperm) with a female sex cell (egg) (12)

**fruit** (FROOT) the part of a flowering plant that develops from a flower’s ovary and that surrounds and protects seeds (12)

**germinate** (JUR-muh-nayt) to begin to grow into a new plant (10)

**gymnosperm** (JIM-nuh-spurm) a nonflowering plant such as a conifer that produces seeds that are not inside fruit; means “naked seed” (8)

**heredity** (huh-RED-i-tee) the passing of traits from parent to offspring (5)

**life cycle** (LYF SYE-kuhl) the stages a plant or animal goes through as it grows and develops during its life (5)

**organism** (OR-guh-niz-uhm) a living thing such as a plant or an animal (4)

**ovary** (OH-vuh-ree) the female plant structure that stores egg cells and develops into the fruit of the plant (11)

**pistil** (PIS-tuhl) the female part of a flower (11)

**pollen** (POL-uhn) yellowish, dust-like grains in a flower that contain the male sex cells (11)

**pollination** (pol-uh-NAY-shuhn) the transfer of pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part of the same flower or of another flower (12)

**reproduce** (ree-pruh-DOOS) to produce more living things of the same kind (4)

**seed** (SEED) a part of a plant that can develop and grow into a new plant; made up of an embryo, stored food, and a seed coat (8)

**spore** (SPOR) a reproductive cell that can grow into a new plant without joining with another cell (18)

**stamen** (STAY-muhn) the male part of a flower (11)