

# Seedy

Dispersal and structure of  
seeds

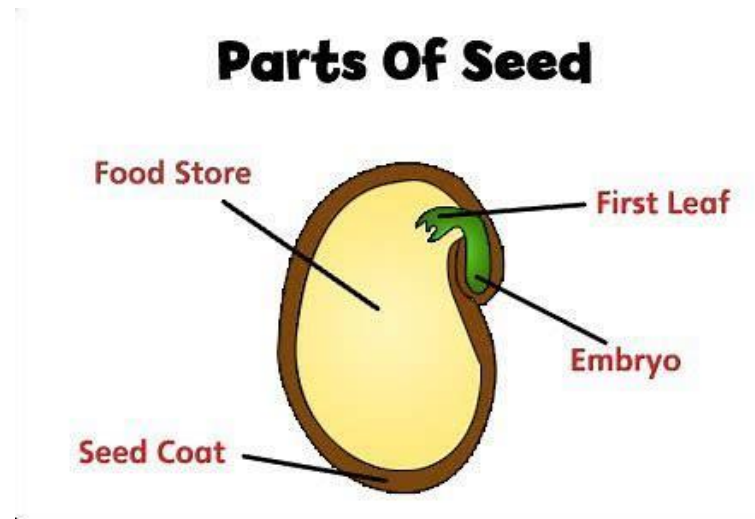


# The parts of a seed

Fruits are the mature ripened ovaries of flowers, and fruits contain seeds.

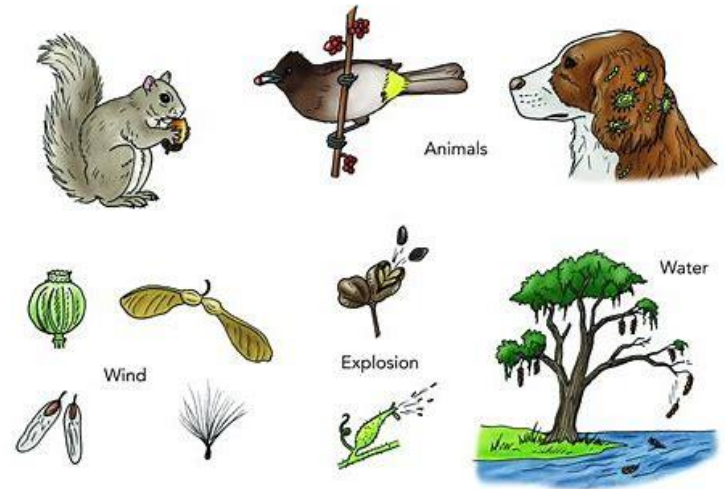
Seed are the embryonic stage of the plant life cycle, consisting of embryo (a tiny plant with a root, stem and leaf), endosperm (nutrition consisting of starch, oil and protein), and seed coat (protective covering).

Seeds are a feature of the spermatophytes,--seed plants subdivided into gymnosperms, or “naked-seeded” plants such as conifers and cycads, and angiosperms, flowering plants with seeds enclosed in ovaries.



# The different kinds of seeds

Seed shape or form is determined by the means of dispersal with seeds that float in the water or air, are eaten by birds and animals and eliminated, or hidden by animals. Some seeds twist and pop or explode to scatter.



Seed  
form is  
adapted  
for  
traveling  
in  
different  
ways:

Hitchhike sticking to  
fur or clothes

Exploding into the  
air

Uncurling and  
catapulting into the  
air

Drifting on the  
water to wash onto  
shore and claimed  
for food

Dragged  
underground by  
burrowing creatures

Rolled by beetles

Sinking into the  
water and sprouting  
in the mud

Hidden and  
forgotten by birds  
or squirrels

Floating to shore

Spit out by a  
creature eating the  
fruit around it

Scattered by  
rodents

Carried away with  
raptors

Falling from talons

Parachuting  
through the air

Plunging through  
the water to the  
mud

Helicoptering

Plopping in poop

# Some ways seeds travel

Seeds can travel by air—wafted, popped or exploded!



Seeds can fall into water and float to a new location.



# Squirrel hiding nut.

Seeds can travel with and on animals.



# Seeds can be eaten and “pooped” out!

Birds can crack seeds and drop them.



# Finding and identifying seeds and fruit

## Crime scene:

- Graveyard—soil bank
- Skelton—dry seeds on the stems
- Scat and crop
- Dehiscent—exploders
- Indehiscent—containers
- Zoochory—travelers

## Fruit evidence:

- Beans, pods
- Husked nuts
- Achene, grain

## Structural evidence:

- Pincushion head
- Square stem
- Papery sheath



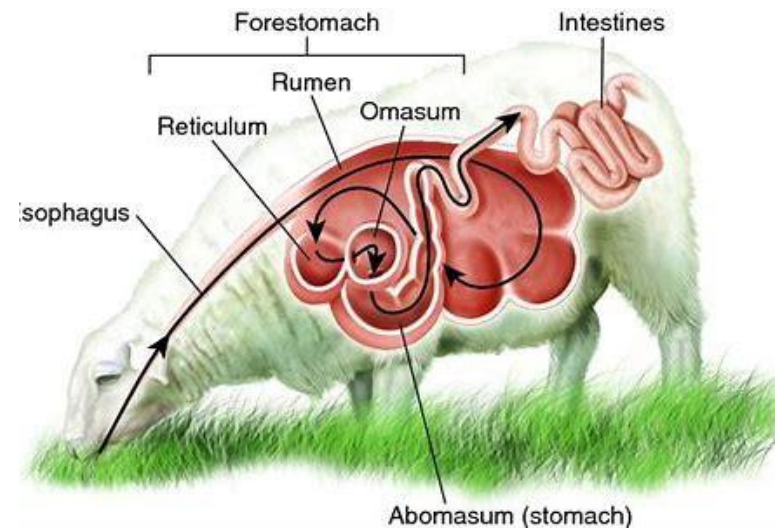
# The *three sisters*- corn, beans, squash

The Three Sisters-- maize, beans, and squash-- are planted together in a shared space. This indigenous agricultural practice of intercropping allow these three plants to protect and nourish each other as they grow, to provide a solid diet for their cultivators.



# Herbivores we see in the park

Herbivores are heterotrophs—they cannot produce food energy but are primary consumers of plant energy from primary producers. Herbivores include microorganisms, invertebrates such as insects, vertebrates such as birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and mammals.

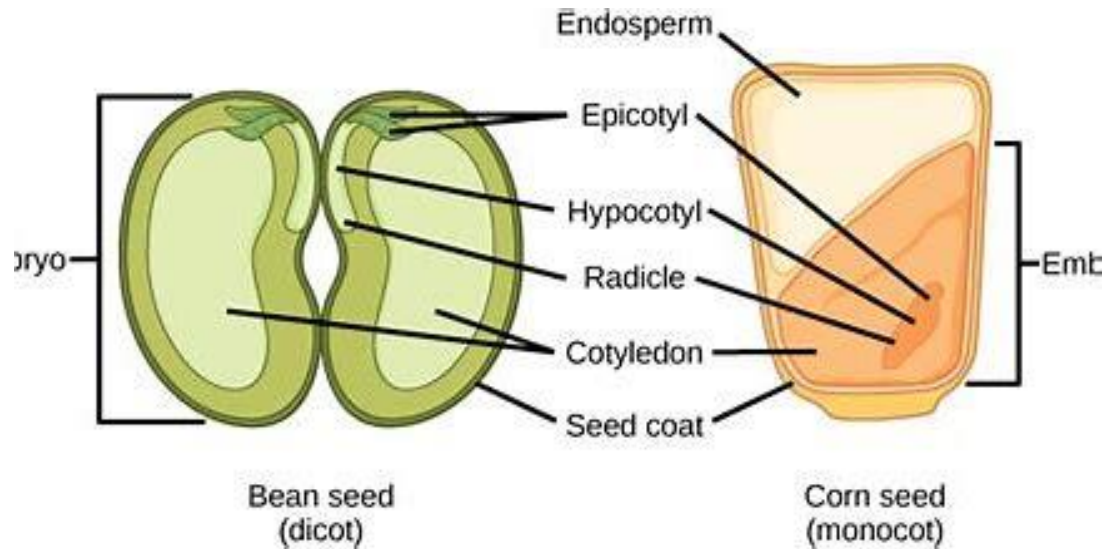


# Finger seeds

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Flower to fruit and fruit to seed, (open hand to fist, to fingers)

Provides the food and protection I need!  
(rubbing tummy and hugging chest)



# Singing seeds, to Clementine

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Seeds are carried by the  
water, (wavy hands)

Seeds are carried by the  
birds, (flapping wings)

Seeds are carried by the  
wind, and (blowing)

They are carried by the  
herds! (stomping feet)



# Seed exploration, imagineering and culinary adventures!

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Be a seed detective and see how many seeds you can find on plants, on the ground, on water.

See you know you eat seeds? You probably have seeds around the house—popcorn, rice, oatmeal, peanuts, dry beans—how can you use these to be a seedoriffic artist!

And how about other seed foods—breads, pasta, cookies, cereal—what's on you seed menu?



# Seeds on the move!

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