

## 18 Words About How Plants Make Food

## Use Content Words

carbohydrates

chlorophyll

nutrient

photosynthesis

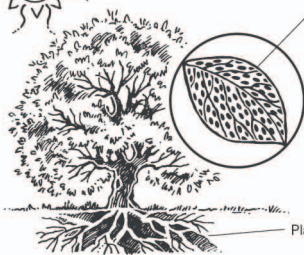
synthesize

**Directions** Here is a page from a science textbook that is still being written. The writer has not yet chosen all the words. Write the vocabulary word that best fits in each blank.

Figure 1. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in Green Plants



Sunlight, a necessary part of the chemical reaction.



Special leaf structures called chloroplasts contain (2) \_\_\_\_\_, the green pigment that absorbs energy from the sun.

Sugar is the basis of complex (3) \_\_\_\_\_ such as cellulose, which build cell walls.

carbon dioxide + water + oxygen = sugar

Plants absorb water from the soil.

In the process called (4) \_\_\_\_\_, green plants manufacture their own (5) \_\_\_\_\_ supplies (see Fig. 1). In leaf cells, the green pigment (6) \_\_\_\_\_ traps energy from the sun. Sunlight is necessary to break down water into hydrogen and oxygen atoms. The oxygen is released into the air. The hydrogen combines with oxygen obtained from carbon dioxide, a gas absorbed from the air. Carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen form glucose, a simple sugar. A plant can (7) \_\_\_\_\_ more complex (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in further chemical reactions. Minerals absorbed from the soil combine with carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ more complex types of food substances or (10) \_\_\_\_\_, such as protein.

**Interview a Botanist**

Work with a partner. In your personal word journal, write five questions you'd like to ask a plant scientist, who is called a botanist. Try to include several vocabulary words, along with five new content words that relate to how plants make food. Learn the meanings of these new content words by using the Word Learning Tip and Vocabulary Building Strategy.