

Travelling Plants



Plants cannot walk from one place to another. So how do plants spread themselves over such large distances?

Seed Dispersal

They send their seeds far out into the world, using various methods.

Self

Pods pop open when ripe, ejecting seeds.



Water

Seeds are either hollow or have little hairs to help them float. They can also be so small they will stay on top of water. This is a great method because it makes sure they end up in an area with water.

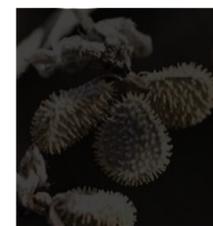


Wind

Animal



Seeds wrapped in food (like berries) that animals like to eat. The seed will then get pooped out. Which is great because there are nutrients right there for the seed to use!! Or, seeds can have hooks that attach to animals fur and get transported to new environments.



In GRASSLANDS, WIND is always present. Many plants create seeds with very light seeds, seeds with long feathery pieces or wing. The wind can then pick up the seeds and carry them away further than an animal could. Relying on wind means that plants do not know if the seeds will end up somewhere with everything they need to survive.

What do plants need?

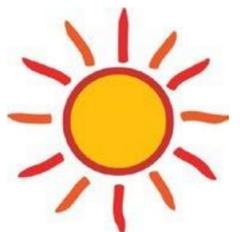
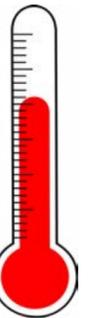
● Good Temperature

● Light



● Water

● Nutrients



Instructions

1. Create a seed using up to 5 pieces of the material provided. (Styrofoam balls, Pipe Cleaners, Paper Clips, Feathers, Construction Paper)
2. Place your seed at the starting line.
3. Use "wind" (blow dryer) to blow your seed onto the landing pad.
4. Where did your seed end up?
5. Does the seed have everything it needs to survive?
6. Can you change your seed to make it fly further?
7. Fly your seed beside others, whose flies the furthest? Do they fly differently through the air?

Some Types of Wind Dispersers:

GLIDER



PARACHUTE



HELICOPTER



COTTONY



SPIKELETS

