

Plants Script

Did you know plants came before animals? To understand how plants existed before animals, we need to understand plants. Plants do not have lungs the way other animals do because they do not breathe oxygen. They “breathe” in carbon dioxide and “breathe” out oxygen. Oxygen is the substance in the air that all animals, including humans, need to stay alive. When the world first started, it contained mostly carbon dioxide, making it impossible for animals to live on Earth. When plants began to start evolving and growing on the Earth, the plants took most of the carbon dioxide and turned it into oxygen. It only took a couple thousands of years. Eventually, animals were able to evolve and breathe oxygen! In short, without plants, the Earth would have no oxygen, and any animal that breathes oxygen (all of them) would not be able to survive.

Plants use sunlight, soil, and water for food. Plants turn sunlight into food using photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is a process that takes sunlight and converts the sunlight into food for the plants. Most plants only need these three resources to survive, but some plants are carnivorous. Carnivorous plants, like the Venus Flytrap, eat meat!! These plants use different techniques to lure insects and other small animals (including rodents, birds, reptiles, and amphibians).

While most animals need another animal (usually one male and one female) to reproduce, most plants can reproduce independently (on their own). Unlike animals who reproduce with live birth or an egg, plants use seeds.

Plants also give humans and other animals numerous (many) services. Plants feed everything on the planet, even animals that only eat meat. For example, carnivorous animals often eat herbivorous animals (an animal that only eats plants). If the prey did not have plants, then the prey would quickly die. All the prey dying would be incredible for the carnivores at first (it'd be a free buffet!). The carnivores would eat all the animals that were weak and starving, but once the herbivores were all gone, the predators will have nothing to eat. If there is no food for the predators, then they will also become weak and starve. So if all the plants die, anything that eats plants or animals will also die.

Plants provide homes for animals. Birds, squirrels, monkeys, sloths, and other animals live in trees. Insects and small rodents hide under smaller plants (like bushes). You can use plants to make tools like rope, soap, medicine, food, and

houses!!! I mean, even wood comes from trees! Every material we use to build or create comes from the Earth.

Plants can also help the soil stay in one spot, preventing avalanches and riverbanks from collapsing. Soil and dirt will start to slide if it is not held in place. Plants' roots go straight into the ground to help hold the soil in place and to feed off the nutrients into the soil. Plants also help by shielding soil from rain, wind, snow, and other weather conditions that may cause the soil to slide. The process of soil sliding or moving out of place is called erosion, and it's dangerous for humans (especially if you are under an avalanche, ahhhhh). Erosion can also hurt animals (not just from rocks and dirt sliding on them). Erosion is harmful to animals that live in the water. Some aquatic animals (animals that live in water) can only live in clear waters, extra substances in the water can cause health problems for the animals. For example, if an aquatic animal lays its egg in the water and those eggs get covered with soil or rocks, there is a chance the eggs will not be able to get oxygen, and then they will never be able to hatch. If there are other plants inside of the water, and they become covered with soil, then those plants might not be able to get sunlight anymore and would then die. WOW! Soil erosion can be dangerous, and plants are incredibly helpful in preventing it.