

Y5 Plant Asexual Reproduction

KS2 Y5 Science · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

What is asexual reproduction?

Step 1 · How many parents?

Just one

Step 2 · Are flowers, pollen or seeds needed?

No — a new plant grows from part of the parent (a stem, bulb, runner or tuber)

Step 3 · What is the new plant like?

An identical copy of the parent

Answer: Asexual reproduction is when one parent makes new plants that are identical copies of itself, without seeds.

Check: Asexual = one parent, identical. Sexual = two parent cells, offspring vary.

2. Now try one with the steps

How do you take a cutting from a mint plant?

Step 1 · Choose a healthy stem

Step 2 · Snip just below a leaf joint

Step 3 · Stand it in water or damp compost

Step 4 · Wait and watch

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. How many parents are needed for asexual reproduction?

2. Is a plant grown by asexual reproduction identical to its parent?

3. What is a runner?

4. Name a plant that reproduces using runners.

5. Name a plant that grows from a bulb.

6. What is a cutting?

7. A potato is a tuber. Which part of a potato sprouts a new plant?

8. Does asexual reproduction need pollination?

9. A garlic bulb has 9 cloves. Each clove is planted and grows into a new bulb. How many new bulbs?

10. Give ONE advantage of asexual reproduction for a plant.

11. Give ONE disadvantage of asexual reproduction.

12. A spider plant has 5 runners with 2 plantlets on each. How many new plants could you grow?

13. Why do farmers often grow bananas from cuttings and shoots rather than seeds?

14. Some plants, like strawberries, reproduce in BOTH ways. Name the two ways.

4. Before you hand it in

All plants grow from seeds.

Seeds = sexual reproduction. Bulbs, runners, tubers and cuttings = asexual.

A potato is a root.

Tubers store food and can grow into new plants.

Plants grown from cuttings are a bit different from the parent.

Asexual reproduction makes identical offspring (sometimes called clones).

A plant uses only one way to reproduce.

Many plants do both.