

Photosynthesis

Did you know only about 1% of the average tree is actually alive, with the remaining 99% made up of dead wood cells!

Food provides a source of energy for living processes, enabling them to grow and survive. Green plants are able to grow by producing their own food. Green plants are known as 'producers' as they 'capture' light energy from the sun, using the green pigment in their leaves called chlorophyll. This energy is used to produce sugars, by the process called photosynthesis. The leaves on plants, including trees, are their food factories. Using energy from the sun, they take the water that the roots have sucked from the ground and mix it with the carbon dioxide in the air to make food for the plant (a sugar called glucose, which is either used in respiration or converted to starch and stored), and release oxygen. Plants are therefore said to produce their own food.

Can you draw a diagram, with labels explaining the processes?

Word List

carbon dioxide oxygen water glucose light energy