# **GO WITH THE PHLOEM PUZZLES**

Plants have two kinds of vessels for moving fluids inside their bodies. **Xylem** (zye-lum) transports water from the roots to all parts of a plant. **Phloem** (flow-um) transports sugars made by a plant's leaves to the parts that need energy. Many plants have special roots that can store sugars for later.

#### PRACTICE:

For each of the puzzles below, draw phloem paths for sugar to travel. Paths must connect sugars (O) to a part of the plant that needs it.

**Ex.** Transport 4 sugars from the onion root to each sprout.



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Transport 3 sugars from the daffodil root to each flower.

10 Transport 4 sugars from the leaves to each sweet potato root.







A tree that lost its leaves is growing new ones

A tree that is making offspring (fruits)

A tree getting plenty of sunshine and water

# **HEARTLESS HYDRATION**

Build a model to explore how plants can transport water upwards without a pump.

# MATERIALS

You will need:

- White fresh-cut flowers
- Disposable straw
- Paper towel or tissue
- Scissors
- Two clear containers
- Liquid food coloring
- Water

The vessels in a plant's body that move water from the roots upward to the tips of the leaves are called **xylem**. Let's take a closer look at how the vessels in a plant work.



### **REAL PLANT**

1) Mix 10 drops of food coloring into 1 cup of water. Gel dyes won't work.

2) Place a white flower into the glass. Carnations, daisies, and roses work well.

#### JOURNAL:

Describe what changes you can see in the plant after 1 minute, 5 minutes, 1 hour, and 1 day in your journal. Try to include drawings or photos with your descriptions.

#### CHALLENGE:

Can you make a carnation with multiple colors? Try it. Draw a diagram in your journal to explain how you did it.





Do you think a plant needs to use energy to move water upwards? Explain how this model provides evidence.

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People add fertilizers to the soil to help plants grow. Fertilizers contain minerals like potassium and nitrogen. Do you think minerals from the soil can be transported through the xylem too? Explain how this model provides evidence.

## Which is taller?

The tallest animals to have ever lived can't match the heights of the tallest trees. The larger an animal grows, the further its blood must travel, and the harder its heart must work. Since animals use muscles to move and pump blood, their bodies generate heat even at rest. The larger an animal grows, the harder it is to avoid overheating.

