

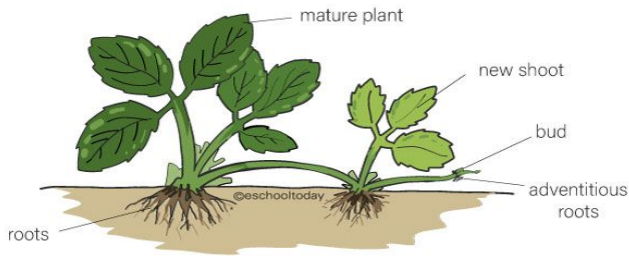
Reproduction in Plants

Significant Scientist

Dr. Ruth Oniang'o



Dr. Ruth Oniang'o studies plants, seeds, and crops, learning how they grow, produce seeds, and reproduce successfully. Her work helps improve food security and teaches the importance of protecting plants and their habitats so they can complete their life cycles.



Key Knowledge

Sexual reproduction of a plant:

- The stamen is the male part of the flower which holds pollen.
- The carpel is the female part of the flower which contains eggs.
- Pollen travels from the anthers of one flower to the stigma of another plant. This is called pollination. Plants rely on bees or other insects to carry their pollen while some pollen floats in the wind.
- After pollination, the pollen grain and the egg join together, fertilisation.
- The fertilised egg will develop into a seed.

Asexual reproduction of a plant:

- **Plant cuttings:** Some plants' stems can grow roots if they are planted in the correct conditions, such as geraniums. This allows for people to make lots of copies of the same plant.
- **Runners:** Some plants, like strawberry plants, grow runners which have new plants on the end. These plants are an exact copy of the parent plant from which they have grown.
- **Bulbs:** Other plants (onions, daffodils, garlic and tulips) produce bulbs which will grow if they are planted. The bulbs form under the soil. This helps the plant to survive during the winter months.

Working Scientifically Skills

- Plan
- Measure
- Fair test
- Report data – scientific diagrams, labels, bar graph and line graphs
- Present – conclusions, casual relationships, explanations

Enquiry Skills

- Fair testing
- Pattern seeking
- Research

Key Vocabulary

propagate	To have or cause to have offspring.
cutting	A part of a plant that is able to grow into a whole new plant.
runner	A slender stem that grows horizontally along the ground, giving rise to roots and aerial (vertical) branches at specialised points called nodes.
bulb	A plant bud that begins to grow underground.
asexual	Only one parent plant.

