

Name: _____

Date: _____

TYPES OF ROOTS

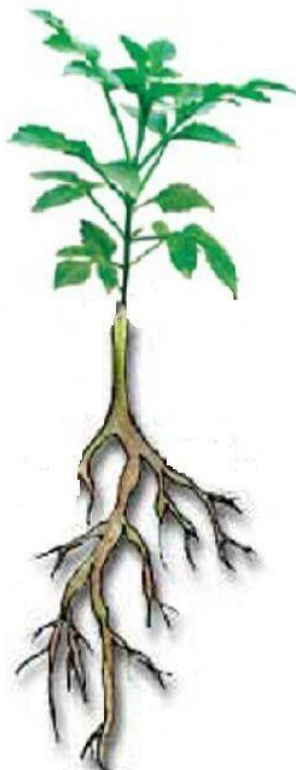
Take a look at the plants below. You can see that they have different types of leaves. They are different colours, sizes, and shapes. Some plants grow flowers. Other plants grow nuts, fruit, or vegetables. You cannot see the roots of plants because they grow under the soil. Do you think the roots are different too?



Plant roots take in water and minerals from the soil. They hold the plant in place. The roots also help keep soil from blowing away in the wind or being washed away by water.

Some plants have roots that spread out under the surface of the soil to collect water. These are called **fibrous roots**. Other plants have longer roots that are thick and grow deep in the soil. These are called **tap roots**.

TAP ROOT



FIBROUS ROOT



Here are some pictures that show plants with their roots.



GRASS



DANDELION



CARROT



WHEAT

1. What are the three jobs of plant roots?

2. What is a fibrous root? Provide an example.

3. What is a tap root? Provide an example.

You will notice that one of the root examples above is a carrot. There are actually several roots that make their way into the average diet. Carrots, beets, turnip, yams, parsnips, radish, and potatoes are all roots.