

Plants and Photosynthesis

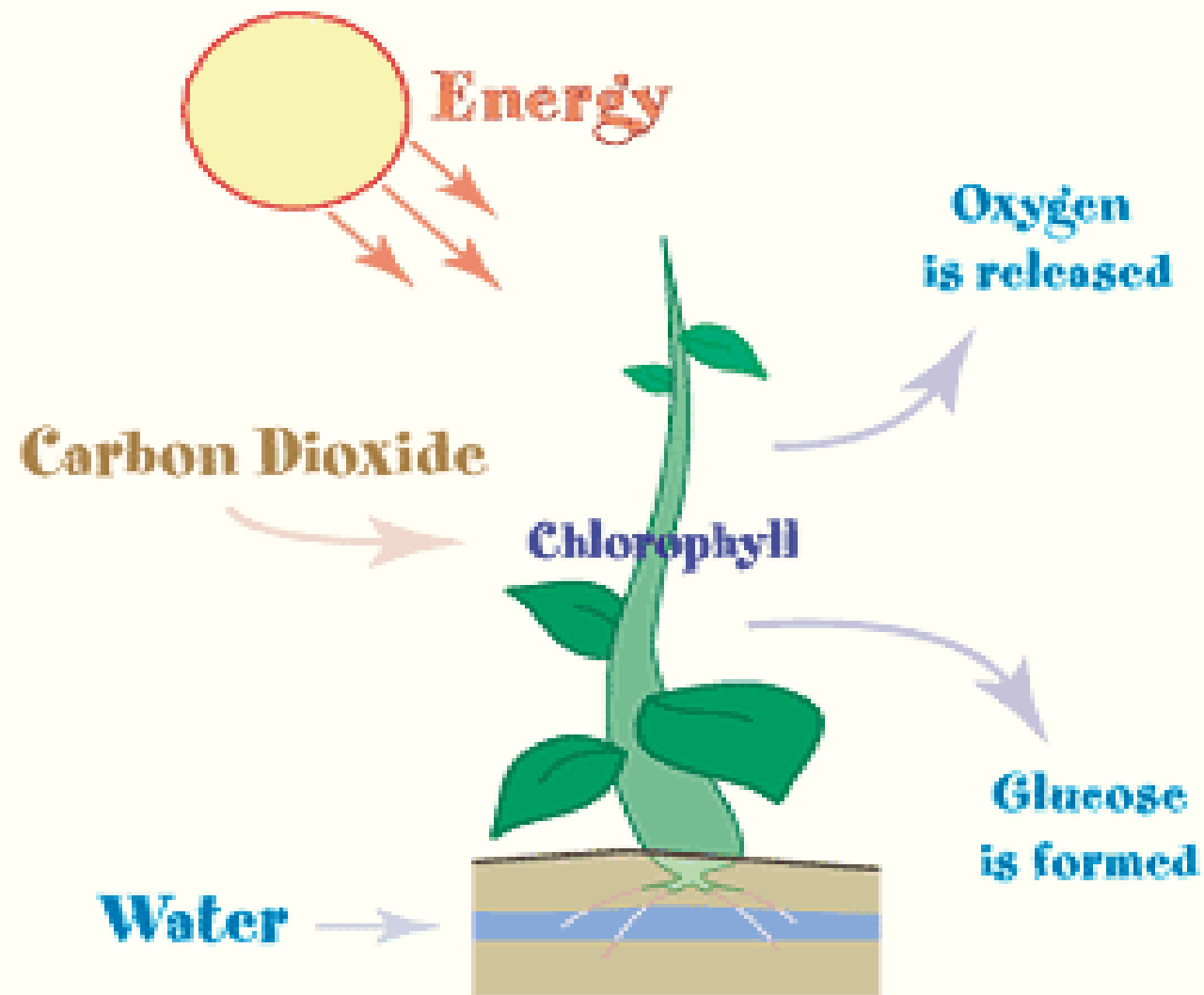
Producers

- Plants are producers
- Producers use energy from the sunlight to carry out special chemical reactions to make their own food



Photosynthesis

- Photosynthesis: Using energy from the sun to produce food.
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- ONLY occurs in plant cells because they don't eat food (in most cases)
- Photosynthesis:
**Carbon dioxide + water + sunlight + chlorophyll
---> food (sugar) + oxygen**



Photosynthesis

Photosynthesis

- **Carbon Dioxide** – comes from the environment
- **Water** – comes from the soil (roots)
- **Sunlight** – kick starts the reaction, using chlorophyll in the leaves
- **Food** – sugars
- **Oxygen** – used by humans → IMPORTANT FOR SURVIVAL

Food Produced

- **Chlorophyll** – it makes plants look green!
 - Found in all plant cells
- Starch is a type of sugar that gives them energy to build new cells for leaves, roots, flowers and seeds.
- Starch is stored in the roots and seeds until it's needed.

Importance of Photosynthesis

- Plants provide the **primary source of food** for humans and other animals
 - (remember plants = producers)
- Other uses of plants:
 - Medicines
 - Habitats
 - Atmospheric gases
 - Building materials (rope, wood, fuel)