



**compost** : decayed organic material recycled as fertilizer and soil amendment

**diversity** : variety; a number of different species of plants

**decomposition** : the state or process of rotting or decay

**embryo** : a developing plant contained inside a seed

**endosperm** : tissue around an embryo inside some seeds, providing protection and nutrition for the growing plant in the form of starch

**environment** : All the conditions around a plant impacting its growth and quality of life, such as the amount of space in which to live, climate, other plants, etc.

**mineral** : an inorganic (i.e. never living), naturally-made, crystal-structured solid that has consistent chemical pattern

**nutrient** : necessary ingredient for a plant's growth and survival, such as nitrogen or potassium, often acquired through soil

**photosynthesis** : the process in plants by which the sun's energy (light energy) is captured by chlorophyll and converted to chemical energy that is stored in sugars, combining carbon dioxide and water to make sugars and release oxygen

**produce** (n.) : agricultural products, especially fruits and vegetables

**product** : a material that is made and often refined through processes in order to become more usable

**respiration** : the process in living organisms by which sugars are combined with oxygen to form carbon dioxide and water, and to release energy for the organisms' use in growth

**stoma** (pl. stomata) : a very small hole in the surface of the leaf (oxygen and carbon dioxide from the air enter through stomata; oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water vapor leave through stomata)

**variation** : differences between organisms of the same species