

### 3.13 Seed dispersal

**Topic:** Plants  
**Subtopic:** Growth  
**Activity type/skill:** Text organisation  
**Literacy focus:** Reading  
**Genre:** Information reports

#### Objective

- Recognise the structure of a text about seed dispersal.
- Identify main points and relevant details.

#### What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)
- Scissors, paper, glue

#### What to do

1. Organise the students in small groups and give each group a cut-up copy of the student worksheet.
2. Explain to students that their task will be to reconstruct a text about seed dispersal in a sensible order – explain the word ‘dispersal’ if necessary.
3. Talk about the parts of the text they need to look for including:
  - the title
  - a general statement that identifies and classifies the subject
  - headings
  - subheadings
  - details.
4. Have each group arrange the text – they should not glue any piece down until they are all agreed on the correct order.
5. Students could then repeat the activity individually and check each other’s work.

#### Extending the activity

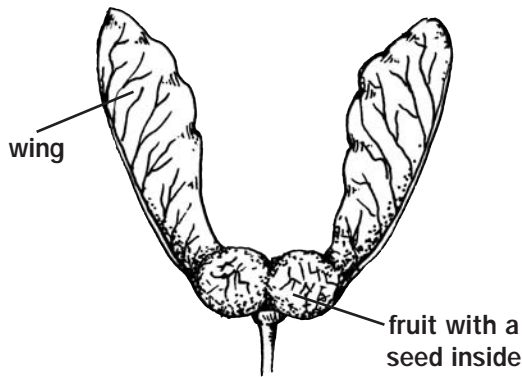
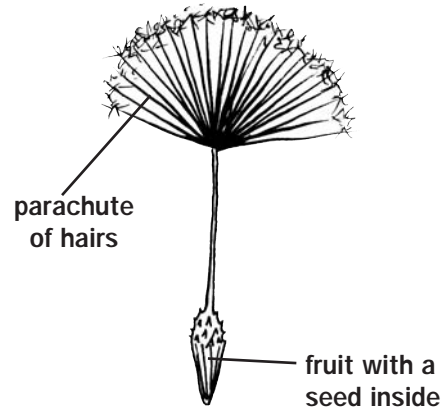
- Look for other texts about plants and use them for shared activities as above.



## Seed dispersal by the plant itself

Other seeds are inside fruits. Animals eat the fruits. Birds and animals cannot digest some seeds. The seeds go through the animals' digestive systems and grow in new places.

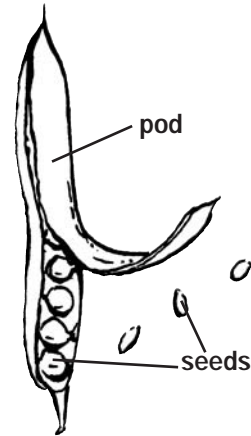
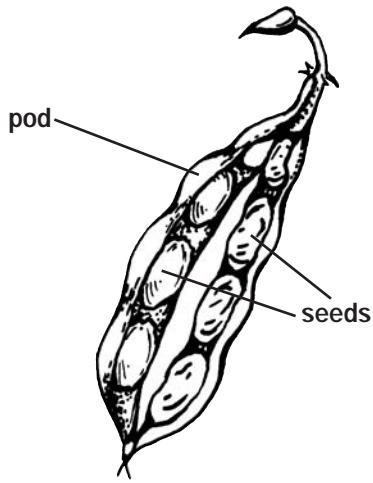
## Seed dispersal by animals



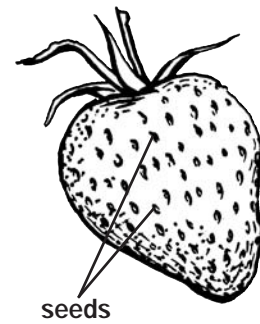
## Seeds carried by animals

## Seed dispersal by wind

Animals can carry seeds. Some seeds are sticky or have hooks. They catch in the hair or feathers of animals and drop off when the animals move about.



## Seed dispersal by water



The seeds of some plants are very light. Other seeds have wings or parachutes so that the wind can carry them easily. A strong wind can carry seeds a long way from the plant.





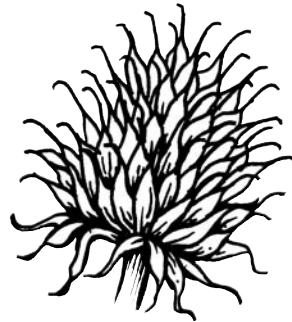
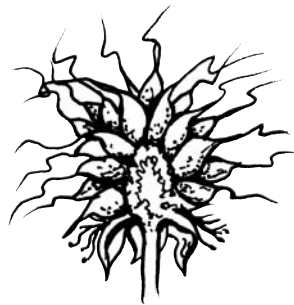
## Seed dispersal

Seeds must be carried away from the plant. This is called dispersal. They must be carried away because they need space, light and water to grow.

Seeds can be dispersed by:

- the plant itself
- wind
- water
- animals.

When a seed pod dries out, it splits open and the seeds scatter.



## Seeds eaten by animals

Some plants, like coconuts, grow near water and their seeds can float. They are carried by the water to another place where they grow.