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Nutrition in Plants

Plants Get Their Food Through Unique Processes

DEFINITION

Nutrition in plants refers to how they obtain and use food for growth. They primarily use photosynthesis to convert sunlight into energy.

KEY CONCEPTS

Photosynthesis

The process by which plants use sunlight, carbon dioxide, and water to make food.

Chlorophyll

A green pigment in plants that captures sunlight for photosynthesis.

Mineral Nutrients

Essential elements like nitrogen and phosphorus that plants absorb from the soil.

Autotrophs

Organisms, like plants, that produce their own food from inorganic substances.

Transpiration

The process of water movement through a plant, crucial for nutrient transport.

EXAMPLES

- A tree using sunlight to grow leaves.
- A flower absorbing nutrients from the soil.
- A cactus storing water and nutrients in its stem.

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Remember 'C' for Chlorophyll and 'C' for Capture of sunlight.
- ★ Think of 'Photosynthesis' as 'Photo' + 'Synthesis' to remember light and creation.
- ★ Use the acronym 'PAN' for Photosynthesis, Autotrophs, Nutrients.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Confusing photosynthesis with respiration.
- ✗ Overlooking the importance of soil nutrients.
- ✗ Thinking all plants can survive without sunlight.

QUICK RECAP

Plants are autotrophs that use photosynthesis to make their own food. They require sunlight, water, and mineral nutrients from the soil to thrive.