

Look Below at My Roots!

Name: _____



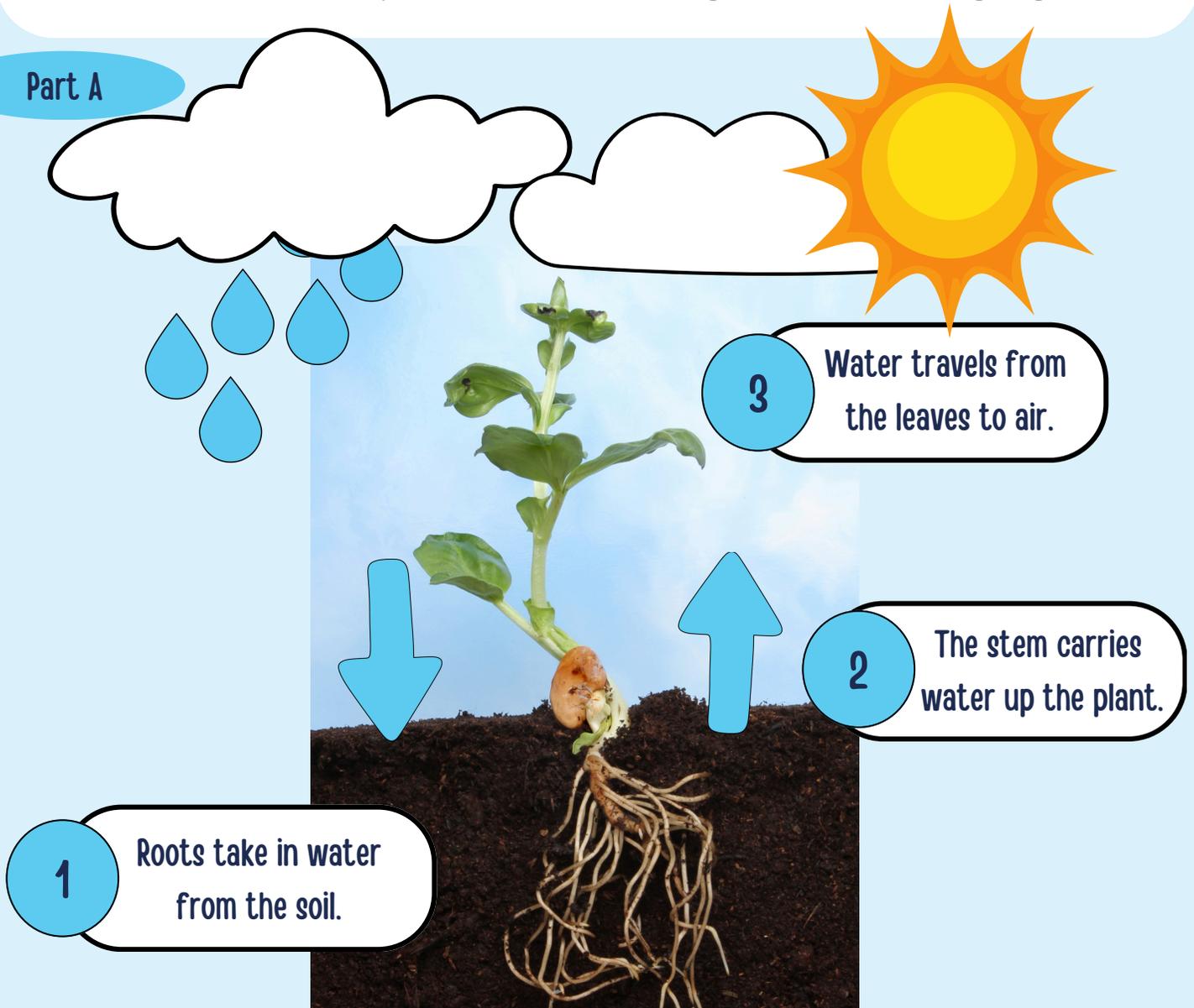
When it rains or when snow melts, water goes into the soil. **Soil** is the soft dirt on the ground that helps plants grow.

Plants **absorb** (soak up) this water using their roots. **Roots** are special parts of the plant that grow underground. Roots hold the plant in place so it doesn't fall over. Roots also bring water from the soil to help the plant grow.

The **stem** carries water from the plant's roots to the leaves. The **leaves** use this water for the plant to grow. Some of the water in the leaves **evaporates** (ee-VAP-uh-rayts), which means it turns into water vapor and goes back into the air. You may have heard of *evaporation* from learning about the **water cycle**.

Without soil and roots, plants wouldn't be able to get water, stand strong, or grow!

Part A



Look Below at My Roots!

Part B

Today, we are going to observe (look) at the plants in our Root Grower Stand! 🌱



Product by Kaplan: Explore and Discover 9 Section Root View Planter

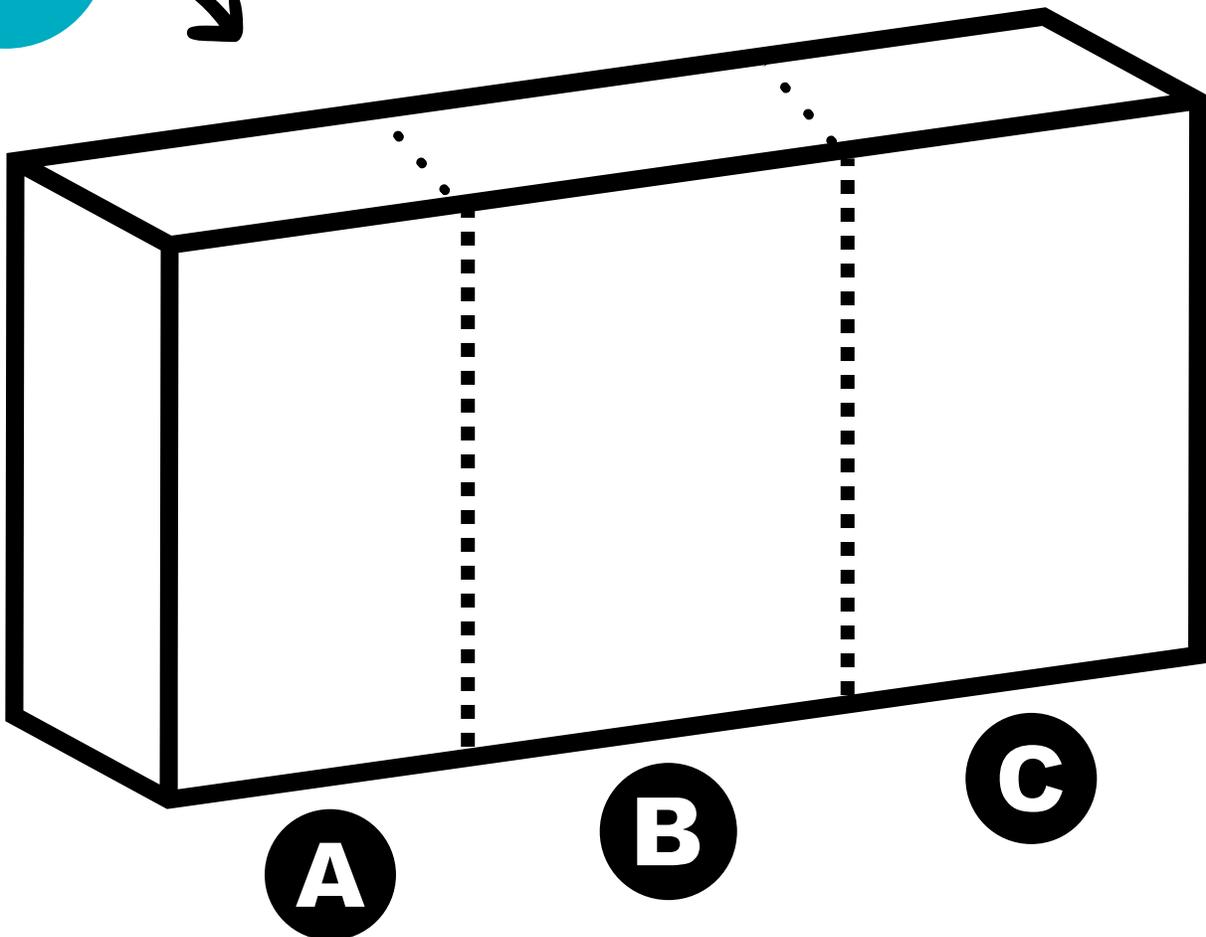
Each section has a plant growing in it. Your job is to look closely at the plants and draw what you see.



Observe the following parts:

- ◆ **Roots** – Are they long or short? Do they spread out?
- ◆ **Stem** – Is it tall or small? Thick or Thin?
- ◆ **Leaves** – How many do you see? Shape of leaves?
- ◆ **Flowers** – Does the plant have any flowers yet?

Draw what
you see!



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Part C

Today, we are going to do a plant dissection!

But what is a dissection? **Dissection** means carefully taking something apart to study it. Scientists do dissections to learn how things work.

- 1 Use your magnifying glass to look closely at the plant.
- 2 Gently touch and observe the roots, stem, and leaves.
- 3 Draw your plant on the white plate below.
- 4 Then label and draw arrows to show the parts of your plant.



Write what you observe about your plant's roots.
