

Springboard into Comprehension

Identifying Detail 17 Years Underground

Main Idea Rhino's Bad Manners

Sequencing Making a Bird-Friendly Garden

Compare and Contrast What Lives in a Burrow?

Fact and Opinion Through the Storm

Cause and Effect **Plants That Eat Meat**

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Plants That Eat Meat



Written by Quentin Hook

Plants That Eat Meat

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Introduction



Have you ever heard of plants that eat meat?
It's true!

Some plants eat insects, spiders,
and other small animals such as frogs.

Two plants that eat meat are the Venus flytrap
and the pitcher plant.



Venus flytraps
with open traps



Pitcher plants' traps
are not flowers,
but special leaves.

Why Do Some Plants Eat Meat?

Venus flytraps and pitcher plants must eat meat to live.

All plants get things they need to live and grow, or **nutrients**, from the sun, rain, and air.

Most plants get nutrients from the ground, too. The nutrients keep them healthy.



A pitcher plant with two traps

But Venus flytraps and pitcher plants cannot get enough nutrients from the ground. This is because they live where the soil does not contain many nutrients. So, to get more nutrients, they eat insects.



A Venus flytrap waiting for prey