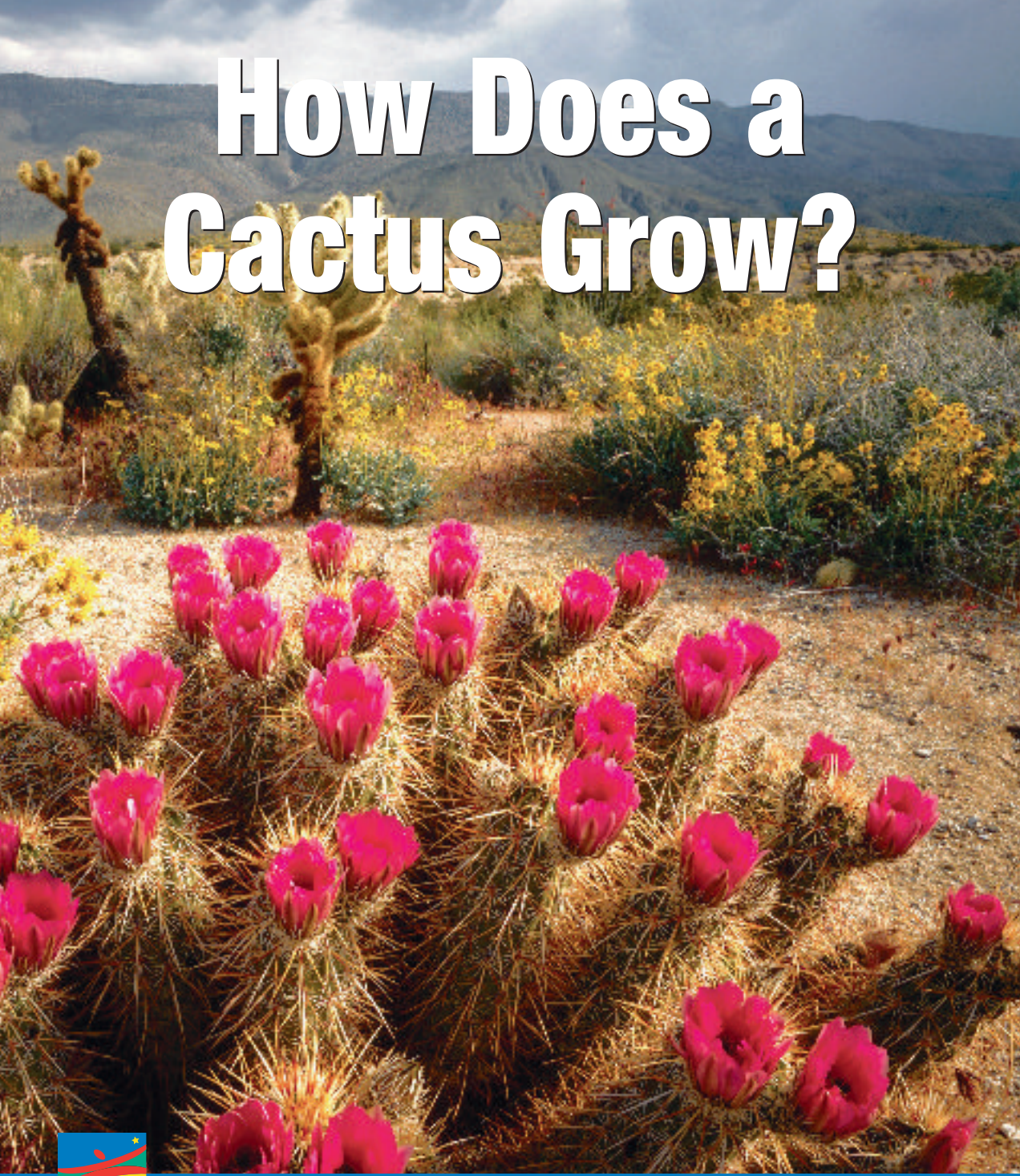
How Does a Cactus Grow?



by Clare O'Brien

Benchmark EDUCATION

Level 11 G Word Count: 189*

The Big Idea

This book discusses how a cactus grows in a desert.

Skills at a Glance

Monitor-Reading:
- Read aloud to clarify

Comprehension:
- Identify stated main idea and supporting details

Phonics:
- l-family blends (bloom, flowers, plants, slowly)

Fluency:
- Read question marks

Content Vocabulary:
- arms, cacti, cactus, fruit, plants, seedling, seeds, skin, spines, trunk

Grammar, Word Study, and Language Development:
- Irregular plurals (cactus/cacti, fruit/fruit)
- Use sequence words (starts, now, next, then)

Sentence Patterns:
- Some ___ are ___.
- ___ is a ___.

* Numerals, vocabulary words on pages 2 and 3, and words in photo captions, labels, diagrams, and charts are not included in the word count for this book.

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629 Fifth Avenue • Pelham, NY 10803

Credits:
Editors: Vicki Rushworth and David Haggerty
Creative Director: Jonette Jakobson
Photo Editor: Lynne Shulhafer

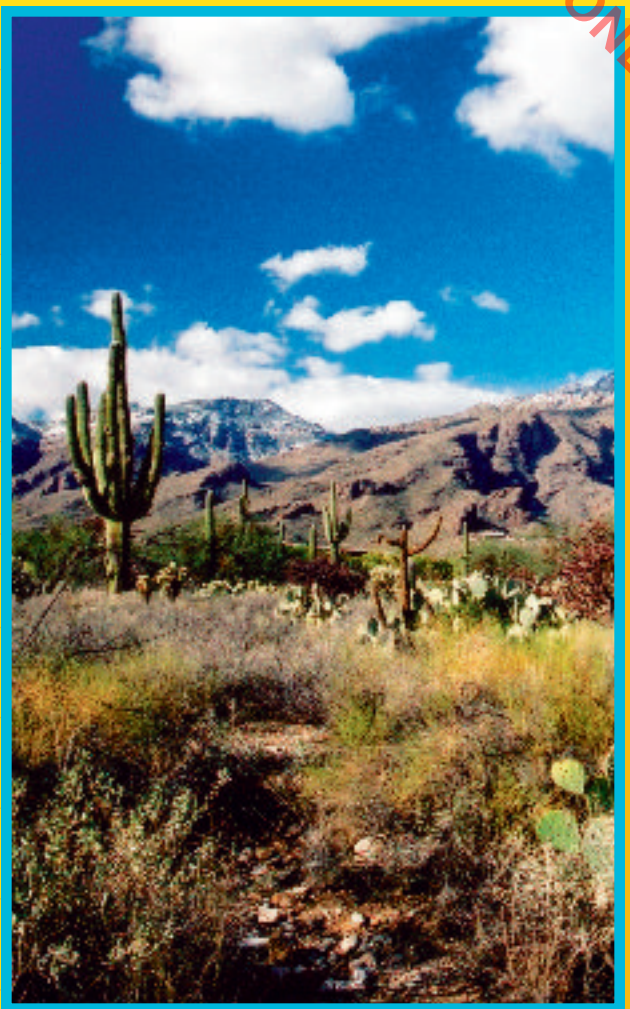
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ISBN: 978-1-4108-7456-6

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What is a cactus?

Where does a cactus grow?



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I need to know these words.

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cacti



desert



seedling



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seeds



spines



trunk



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Some deserts are hot in the day.
Some deserts are cool at night.



▲ This desert is in the United States.

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The plants in a desert can grow without much rain. How do these plants survive?



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A cactus is a plant in the desert.
A cactus grows slowly.



▲ Many types of cacti grow in the desert.

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A cactus grows fruit. Each fruit has many seeds. Some animals eat the fruit. The animals spread the seeds.



▲ This turtle eats the fruit.

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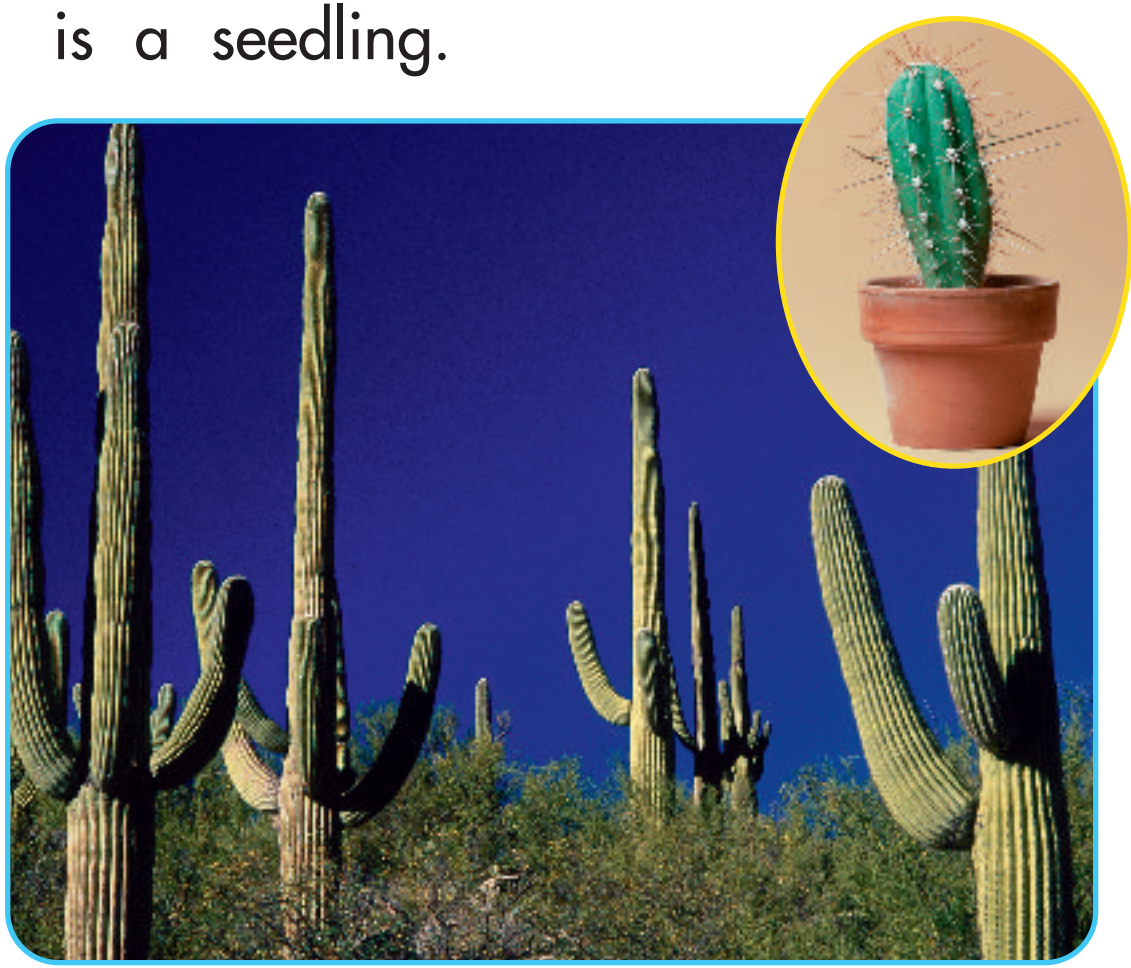
A cactus starts from a seed.



▲ This is a young cactus. This cactus grew from a seed.

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The soil covers the seed. The seed grows bigger. Now the seed is a small plant. The small plant is a seedling.



▲ The seedling of a cactus will grow into a large plant.