

# National 5 Biology

# Unit 3. Life on Earth 3.3 Photosynthesis



Name	 	 	 
Class	 	 	 
Teacher			

# **Photosynthesis**

Plants make their own food by the process of photosynthesis. The word photosynthesis comes from the Greek language: "photo" meaning light and "synthesis" meaning "putting together". The raw materials required for photosynthesis are combined using essential requirements to produce the products.

# Learning intention

We are learning how to describe the basic process of photosynthesis.

#### Photosynthesis equation

The process of photosynthesis can be summarised by the following equation:

Carbon diavida	Light energy	Sugar (glucose) +	
	Chlorophyll		
The raw materials consist of carl	oon dioxide (from the air	) and water (from the soil). These	
are combined using	(from	the sun), which is trapped by the	
pigment (	found in chloroplasts) to	produce (glucose)	
and	light energy		
Photosynthesis is actually a		chlorophyll	
series of reactions controlled			
by	carbon		
There are two stages in the	dioxide	oxygen	
process.		glucose	
	water		

We are learning how to describe the first stage of photosynthesis.

#### First stage: The light reactions



The first stage of photosynthesis is dependent upon \_\_\_\_\_\_. Light energy from the sun is trapped by chlorophyll in the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of green plants. The light energy is then converted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ energy and stored in molecules of substance called adenosine triphosphate (ATP) which are passed to the second stage. In the same set of reactions, \_\_\_\_\_\_ molecules are split into hydrogen and \_\_\_\_\_\_ molecules. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ is passed onto the second stage of photosynthesis. Oxygen diffuses from cells and is eventually released from the plant into the .\_\_\_\_\_\_. We can summarise this in a diagram, as shown below.



We are learning how to describe the second stage of photosynthesis.

# Second stage: Carbon fixation



reactions.

This makes carbon fixation completely \_\_\_\_\_\_ dependent because of the

The second stage of photosynthesis involves a series of \_\_\_\_\_\_-controlled

enzymes involved.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (produced by the light reactions in the first

stage) are combined with carbon dioxide (taken from the air) to produce \_\_\_\_\_\_

(glucose).



We are learning how to describe the uses of sugar by plants.

### Uses of sugar



Photosynthesis produces sugar in the form of \_\_\_\_\_\_. The chemical energy in

this sugar can then be used for \_\_\_\_\_\_ or the sugar can be converted into

other useful substances in the plant, such as starch and cellulose.



We are learning how to describe the impact of limiting factors on photosynthesis.

# **Limiting factors**



A limiting factor is a factor that slows down or stops a process because it is in short supply.

There are three limiting factors in photosynthesis:



Remember: It is better to write about light **energy** or light **intensity** rather than simply using the word light!

# 1. Light intensity

Without enough light, a plant cannot photosynthesise very quickly, even if there is plenty of

water and carbon dioxide. Increasing the light intensity will \_\_\_\_\_\_ the rate

of photosynthesis.



is level, some other factor is

\_\_\_\_\_<u>|</u>

limiting the rate.

# 2. Carbon dioxide concentration

Sometimes photosynthesis is limited by the concentration of carbon dioxide in the air. Even

if there is plenty of light, a plant cannot photosynthesise if there is insufficient carbon

dioxide.



makes its own sugar, the greater the rate of photosynthesis, the \_\_\_\_\_\_ sugar

produced, so more energy is available for plant growth.

l can:	
State that photosynthesis is a two-stage process; The light reactions and carbon fixation.	000
State that in the light reaction, light energy from the sun is trapped by chlorophyll in the chloroplasts and is then converted into chemical energy, which is used to generate ATP.	000
State that some of this chemical energy is used to split water to produce hydrogen and oxygen.	000
State that hydrogen passes onto the second stage of photosynthesis and oxygen diffuses from the cell.	000
Describe how carbon fixation consists of a series of enzyme-controlled reactions, which use hydrogen and ATP (produced by the light reactions) with carbon dioxide to produce sugar.	000
State that the summary word equation for photosynthesis is: Carbon dioxide + Water <u>Light energy</u> Chlorophyll Sugar + Oxygen	000
State that the chemical energy in sugar is available for respiration or the sugar can be converted into other substances, such as starch (storage) and cellulose (structural).	000
State that limiting factors in photosynthesis are; carbon dioxide concentration, light intensity and temperature.	000
Describe the impact of limiting factors on photosynthesis and plant growth.	000
Analyse and explain graphs on limiting factors.	000