

Title: Dangerous Plants

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

ants	cactus	poisonous	roses	leafy
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1. Children have to be taught which things in the house are poisonous.
2. A lot of people like to get roses on Valentine's Day.
3. Lettuce is often called a leafy vegetable.
4. You should never touch a cactus with your hand.
5. Ants are very strong for their size.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Unlike animals, plants do not need air to live. T / F
2. Poison ivy will make your skin burn. T / F
3. Foxglove flowers can be blue or yellow. T / F
4. One plant mentioned in the book can lead to sunburns. T / F
5. Some cactus plants can grow fruit on them. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. "Leaves of three, let them be," is a (famous / funny) saying.
2. Animals think (twice / once) before touching cactuses.
3. Some people think roses are the most (dangerous / beautiful) plant in the world.
4. Plants use (disguises / leaves) so animals can't find them.
5. Fruits that look good can sometimes be (delicious / deadly).

C. Choose the best answer.

1. What does the book NOT say all living things need to live?

- a. Food
- b. Water
- c. Sunlight
- d. Protection

2. How can you avoid poison ivy?

- a. Don't use plants that make your skin burn.
- b. Don't touch plants with three leaves.
- c. Don't go into the woods in the summer.
- d. Don't sit on the ground in the woods.

3. What do some of the most dangerous plants look like?

- a. Very beautiful
- b. Very strange
- c. Very tasty
- d. Very boring

4. Where does the foxglove plant grow well?

- a. In the sun
- b. In the forest
- c. In the shade
- d. In the desert

5. Which is NOT a way the book mentions to stay safe in the woods?

- a. Stay on the path.
- b. Don't touch strange plants.
- c. Wear long clothes.
- d. Wear boots.

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

foxglove	strange	needles	disguises	defend
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In some ways, plants and animals are the same. For example, both need to defend themselves. Plants do this in many different ways. Poison ivy is one example. It uses poison to make animals not want to touch it. Other plants use poison, too. But they use it to keep animals from eating them, like the foxglove. Still, other plants use needles to protect themselves. These sharp points keep animals away. Cactuses use this kind of defense. Some plants have really strange defenses. Some make sweet juices that ants like. The ants then protect the plant from other bugs. Other plants, like the stone plant in Africa, use disguises. The stone plant looks like rocks. Although plants can be dangerous, there are some things we can do to protect ourselves. We can wear gloves and stay on trails. This will keep us safe while we enjoy nature.