

# Short Notes Getting to know plants

- Plants can be grouped into herbs, shrubs, and trees. Other types of plants are climbers and creepers.

<p>Herbs</p>	<p>A herb is a non-woody plant that has green and tender stems with few branches and is usually short</p> <p>Herbs are short with tender stem</p> <p><b>Uses</b></p> <p>Herbs have a variety of uses including adding flavor to food, providing medicine for diseases and in some cases even adding a spiritual touch</p>
<p>Shrubs</p>	<p>Stem in shrubs is hard but not very thick</p> <p>Shrubs are taller than herbs and have stems branching out from the base</p>
<p>Trees</p>	<p>A tree is a woody plant that has many branches on a single stem.</p> <p>Trees have hard, thick brown stem</p>

- The plants with weak stem that cannot stand upright and spread on ground are called creepers. Whereas plants take support on neighboring structures and climb up are called climbers.

## Leaves

Leaves are the structures which develop on branches. These are green coloured structures rich in chloroplasts. As they have chlorophyll in them, they are considered to be food factories of the plant. Photosynthesis occurs in the leaves. Each leaf bears a bud in its axil.

### Structure of leaf

leaf base	The point of attachment of the leaf to the node on the stem
petiole	Leaf bears a stalk with which it is attached to the stem
Lamina	The flat part of the leaf exposed to light
Midrib	A thin structure which extends from the leaf base to the tip on the lamina
Veins	small thread like structures extend from the mid rib to the leaf margin. Veins helps in transportation of food
venation	Arrangement of veins on the lamina of the leaf

Two types of arrangement of veins on the leaf are parallel venation and reticulate venation.

### Functions of Leaf

Photosynthesis takes place in leaves in which they use carbon dioxide and water in the presence of chlorophyll and sunlight.

Water comes out of leaves in the form of vapour. This is called transpiration.

## Roots

Roots absorb water and minerals from the soil. Roots are of two types-tap root and fibrous root.

Plants having the reticulate venation have tap roots while plants having the leaves with parallel venation have fibrous roots.

## Flower

Flower is a reproductive structure of the plant. The different parts of a flower include sepals, petals, stamens and pistil. Flower helps the plant to give rise to new plants by the process of sexual reproduction.

Parts of flower are

Petals	The coloured parts of a flower are called as petals.
Sepals	The green leaf-like parts surrounding the bud are called the sepals.
Stamens	The male reproductive part of a flower. It carries pollen grains. Parts of stamen are anther and filament
pistil	The female reproductive part of a flower. It carries ovules. Pistil has stigma, style and ovary