



Glenlola Collegiate School

excellence through commitment, contribution and caring

1.2

PHOTOSYNTHESIS

# Starter activity

- View celery growing in highlighter fluid
- Describe what you saw
- Explain what you saw
- Share your description and explanation

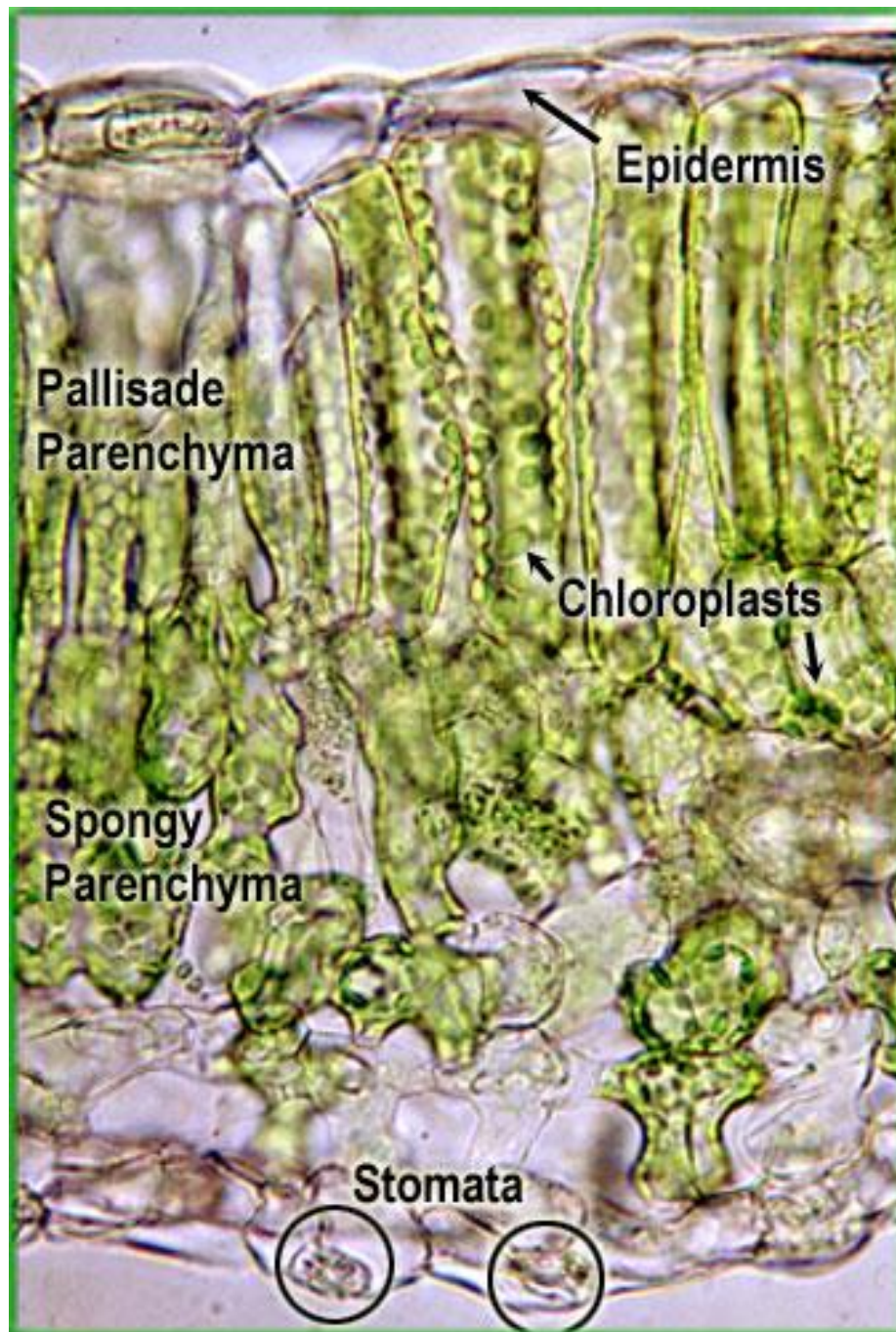


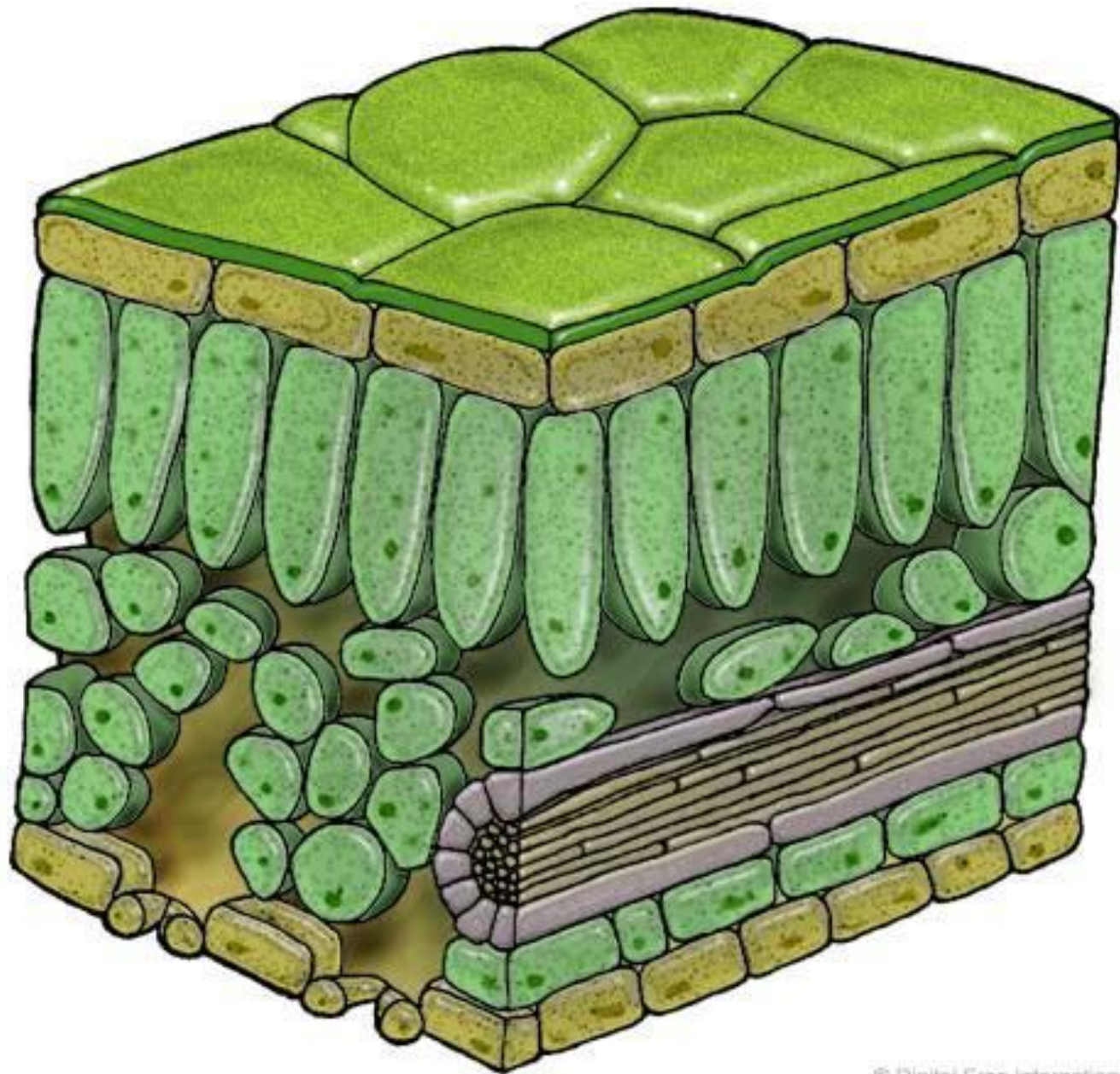
# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## ALL MUST...

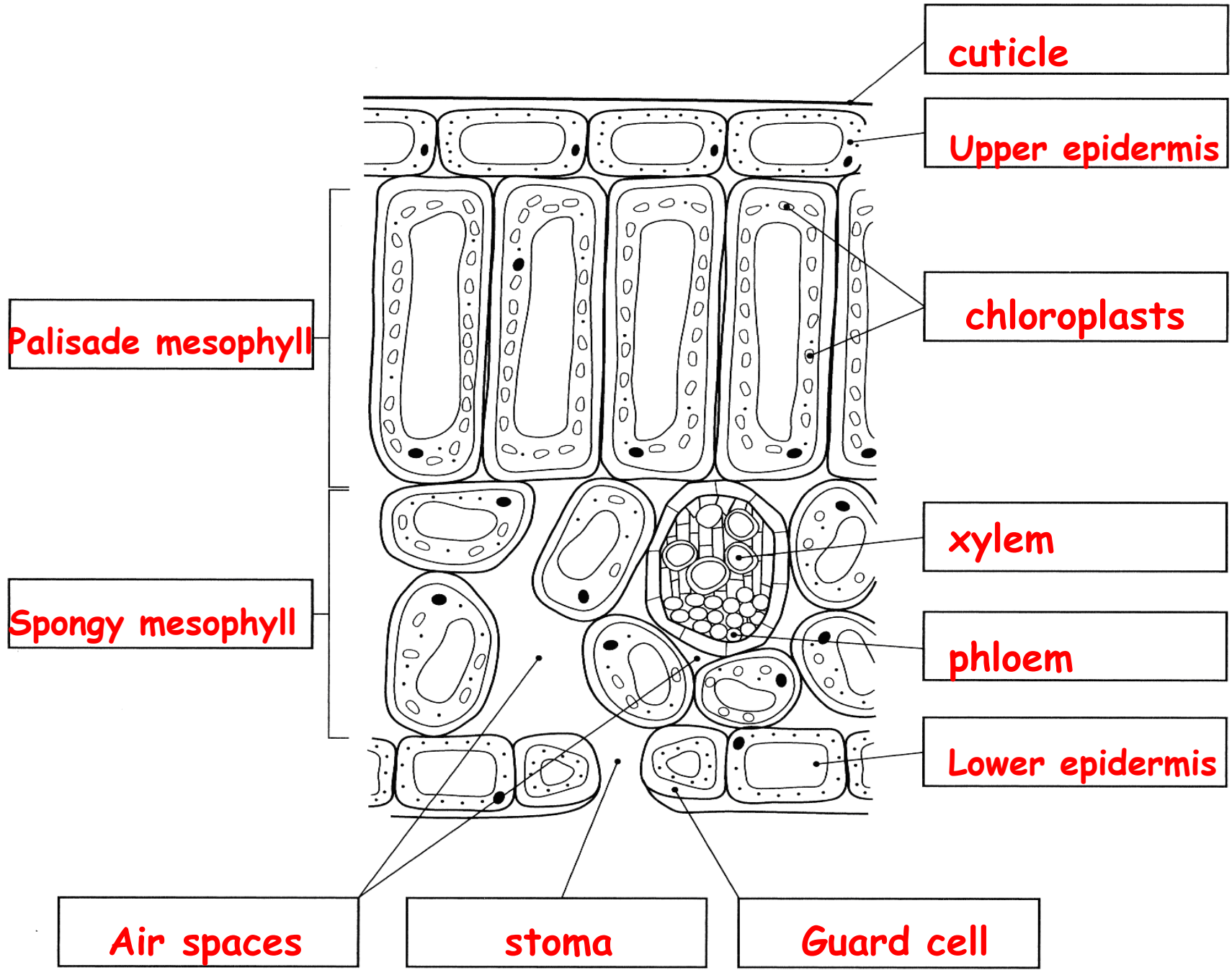
- Label the structure of a mesophytic leaf
- Explain how a leaf is adapted for gas exchange and PS











The background of the slide is white, decorated with a repeating pattern of light green leaf silhouettes. These leaves are scattered across the page, some overlapping the central text. The silhouettes show the veins of the leaves and their overall shape, which appears to be a type of oak leaf.

# STRUCTURE OF A LEAF

# Epidermis

Single layer of cells around the leaf:  
Upper and lower epidermis

Flat, no chloroplasts  
to allow light to pass through



# cuticle

Waxy layer covering the upper epidermis

Reduces water loss

# PALISADE MESOPHYLL

Layer of rectangular shaped cells found below the upper epidermis

Cells arranged side by side, no spaces  
- traps as much sunlight as possible

Many chloroplasts - lots of photosynthesis

# SPONGY MESOPHYLL

Layer of round cells below palisade cells

Fewer chloroplasts, less photosynthesis

Air spaces



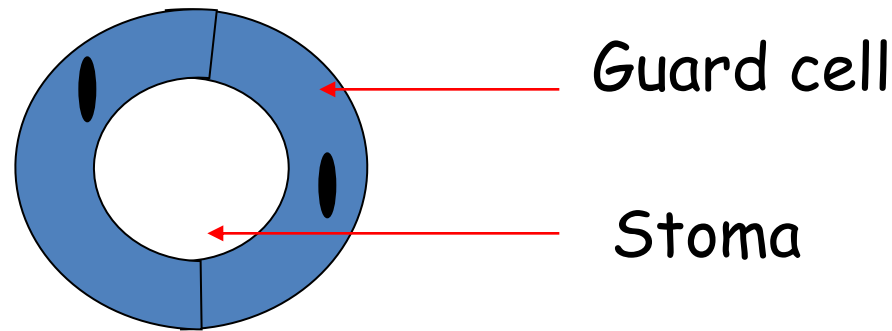
# INTERCELLULAR SPACES

Spaces between the spongy mesophyll cells

Allows diffusion of  
oxygen, carbon dioxide and water  
between inside the leaf and the air  
outside

# Stomata and Guard cells

A **stoma** is a small pore found between the cells of the lower epidermis



**Guard cells** are the 2 cells that surround each stoma

They allow the stoma to open and close,  
controlling movement of gases in and out of the leaf

# Midrib and veins

Contain **vascular bundles** made up of **xylem** and **phloem**

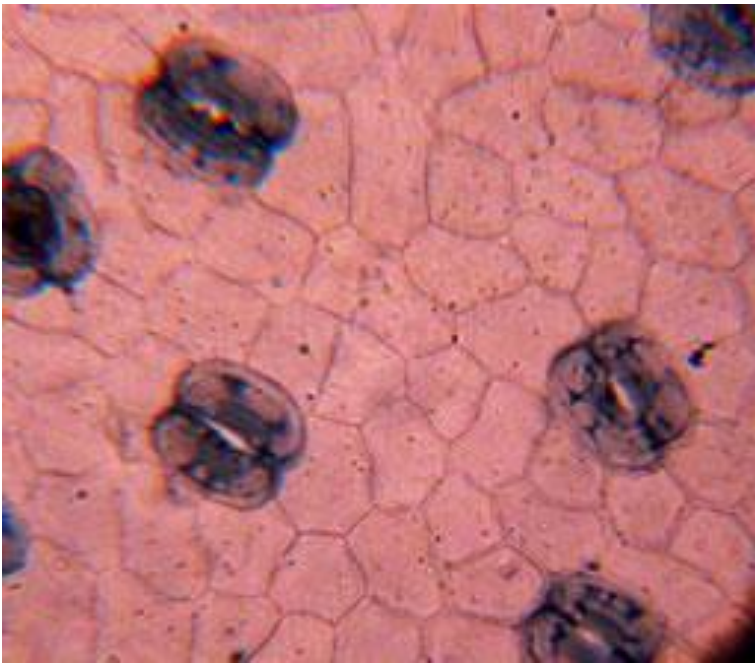
**XYLEM** carries **water** to the leaf cells from the roots

**PHLOEM** carries **sucrose** sugar made in the leaf cells to other parts of the plant



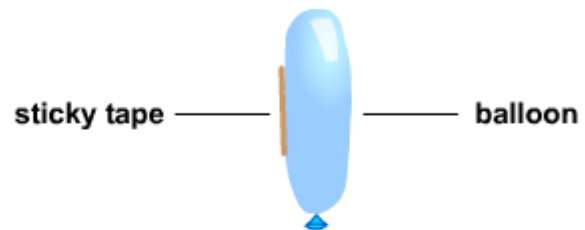
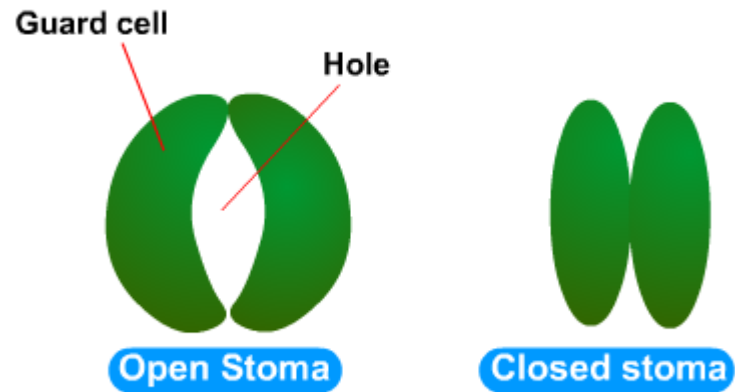
**ADAPTATIONS  
OF A LEAF  
FOR  
PHOTOSYNTHESIS**

**COMPLETE THE TABLE  
USING PAGE 10 & 11**



# stomata investigation

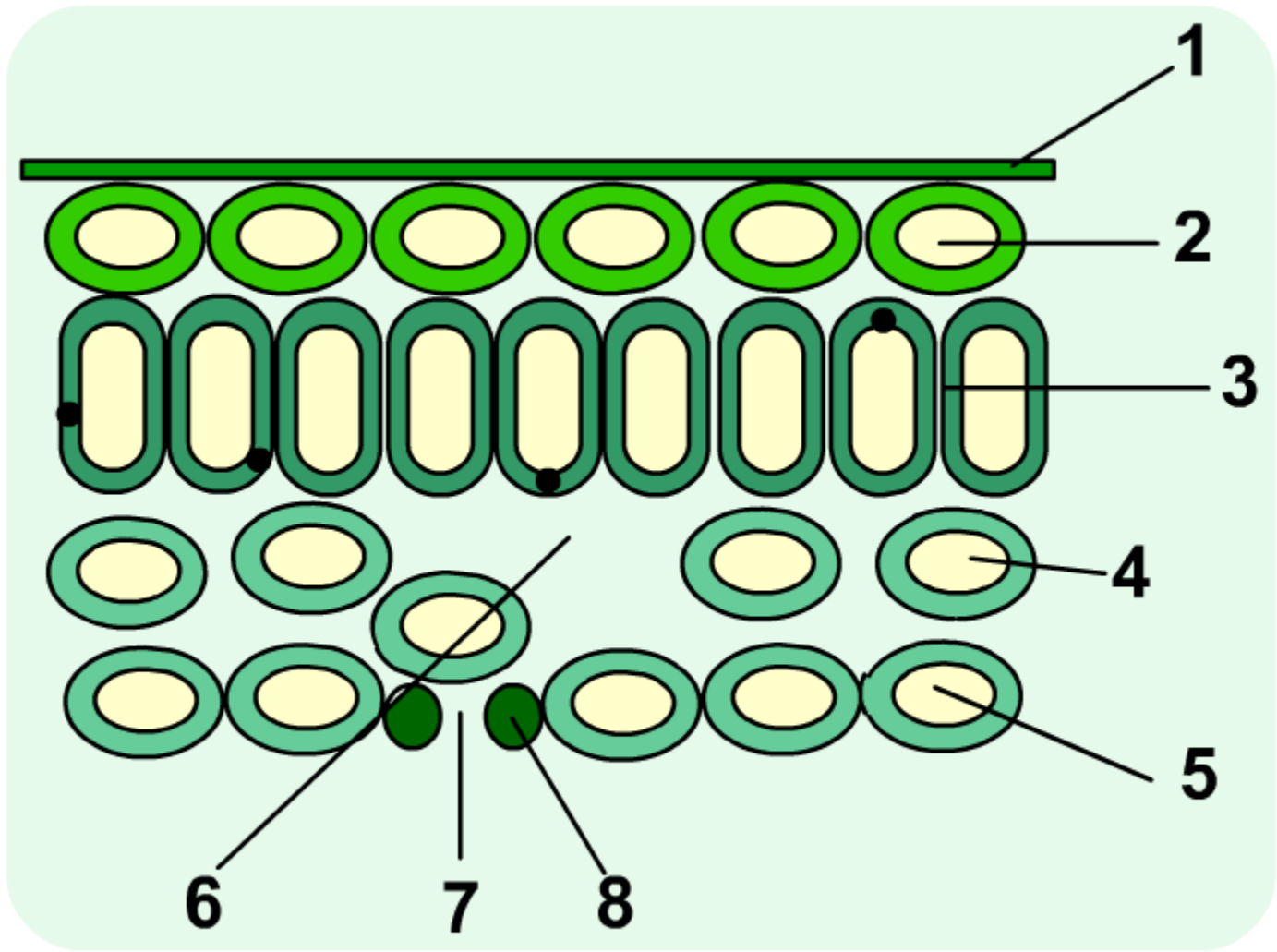
When stomata are open, water evaporates from the leaf.  
There are fewer stomata on the surface of a leaf  
than underneath because  
it is cooler under the leaf (less sunlight), so less water is lost.



Imagine a balloon with sticky tape on one of its sides.







# QUESTION 5A



# LEARNING OUTCOMES

ALL MUST...

- State the equation for photosynthesis and

SOME MAY...

- write the balanced chemical equation

**HIGHER  
TIER**



Read pages 19  
old GCSE text book

Complete the notes on photosynthesis in  
your booklet to include:

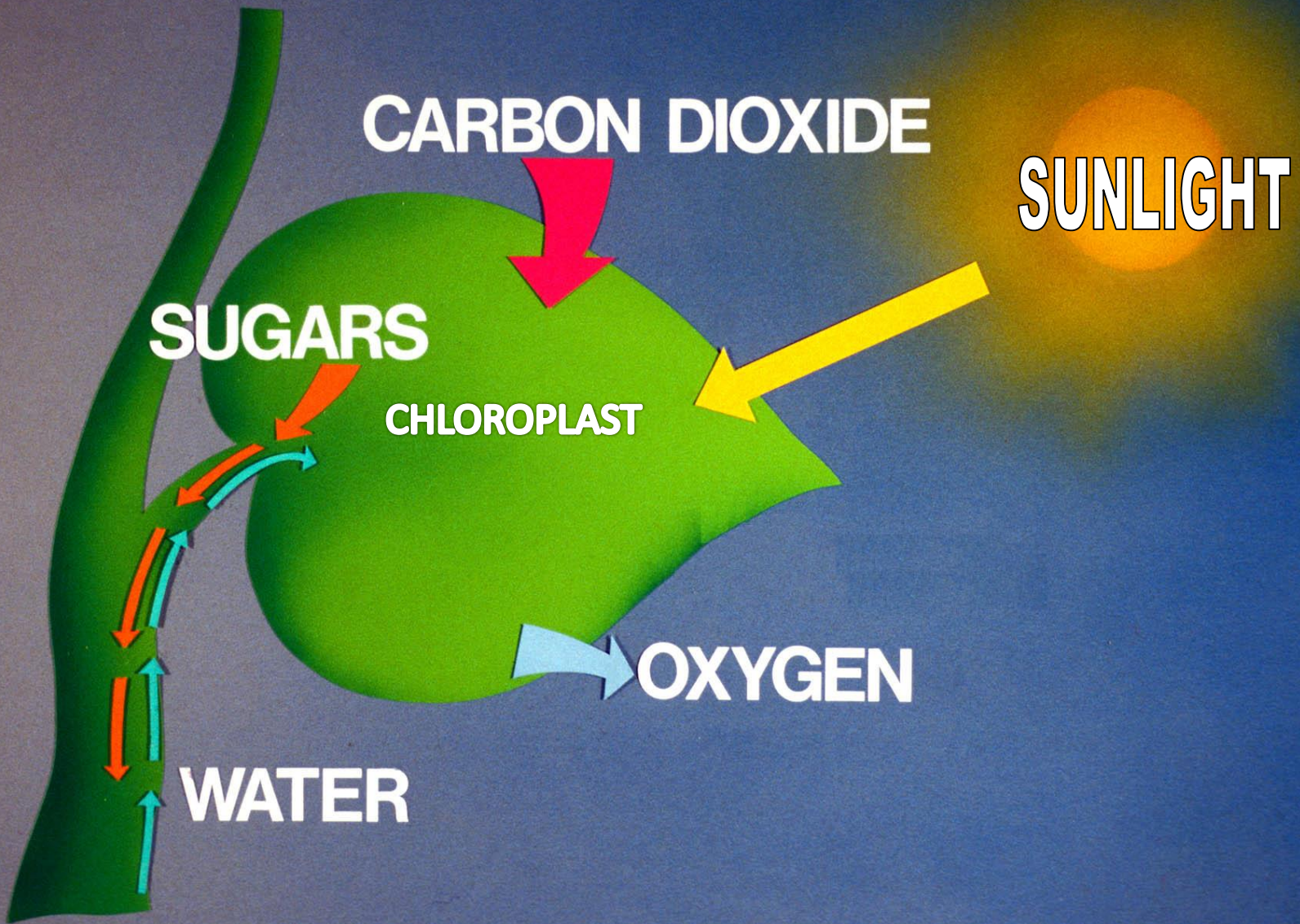
- Raw materials
- Word equation
- Balanced chemical equation
- Products of photosynthesis

- 10605 Sc Eye

[BBC Bitesize Photosynthesis](#)









# How the materials for photosynthesis get to a palisade cell

- **WATER**

travels from the roots up the xylem to the leaves

- **LIGHT**

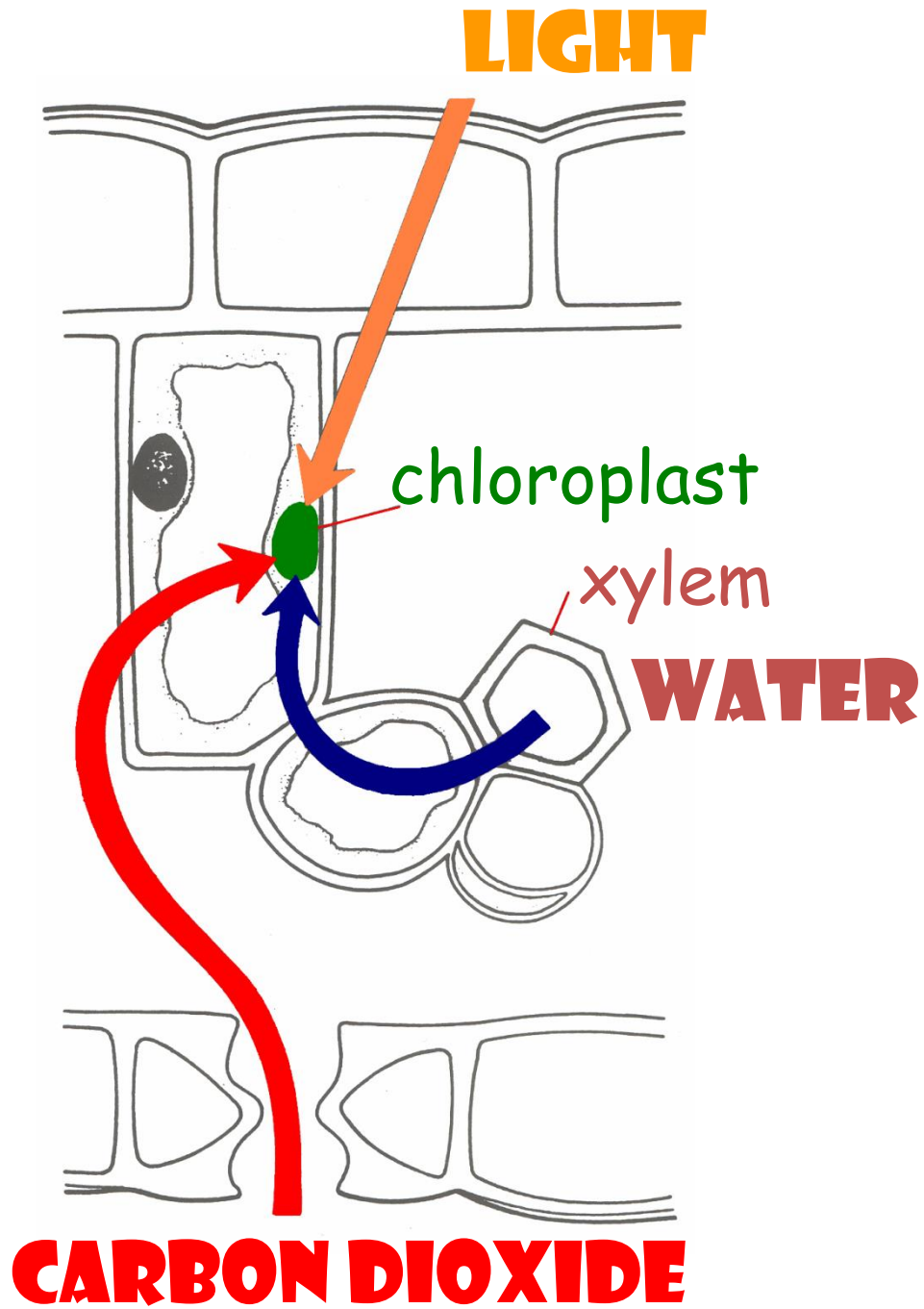
enters through the clear epidermis

- **CARBON DIOXIDE**

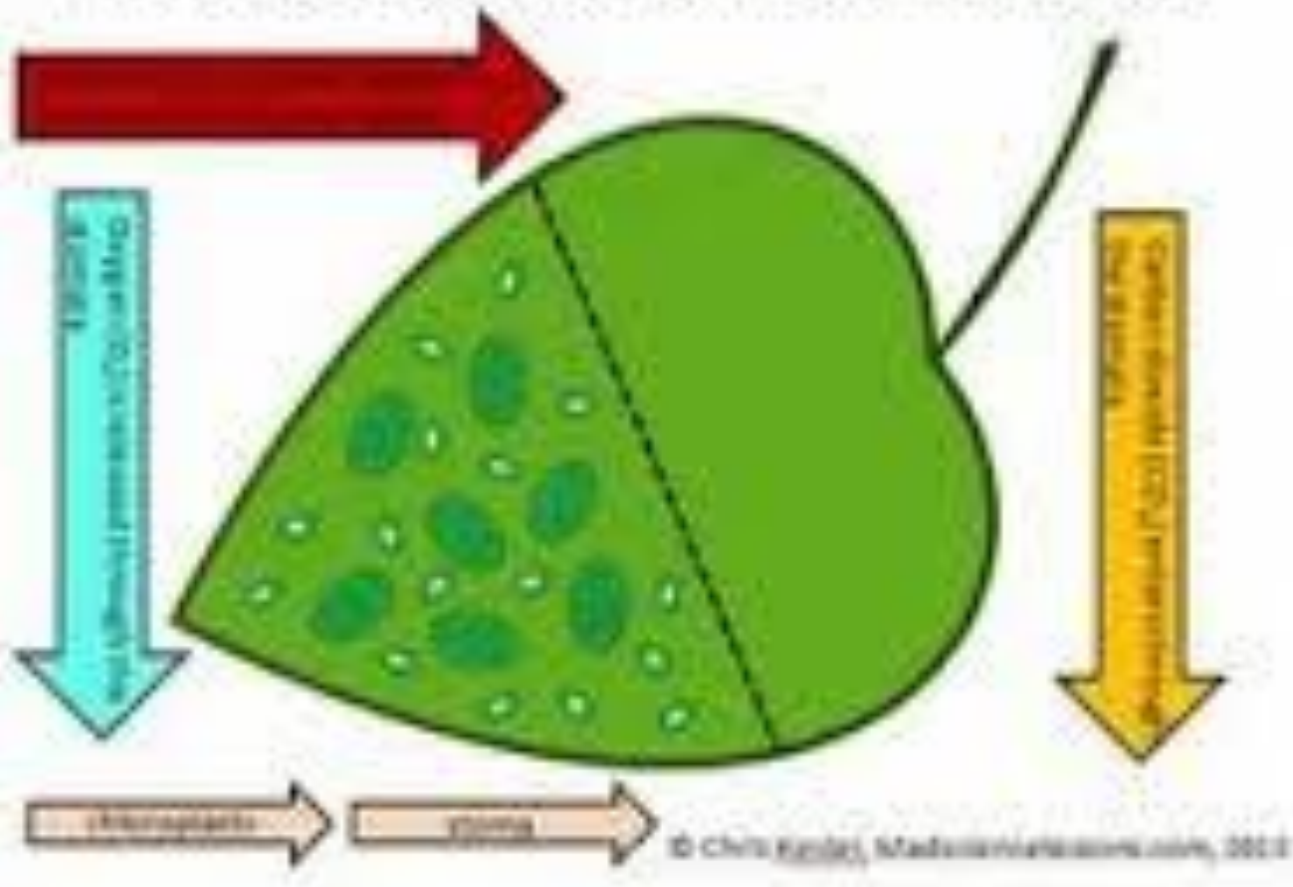
enters the leaf through the stomata

# WORKSHEET

How the materials for photosynthesis get to a palisade cell



# Photosynthesis in a Plant Leaf Model (bottom)



Leaf foldable

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

ALL MUST...

- Explain that the products of PS are used for respiration, storage and growth

# USING THE PRODUCTS OF PHOTOSYNTHESIS

Glucose is the main product of photosynthesis. It is used in respiration to release energy. Glucose is also converted into other substances.

Read page 22 and then complete the notes on how the following are used by the plant.

starch

cellulose

amino

acids

lipids

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## ALL MUST...

- Explain how and why a plant is destarched
- State, explain and carry out the steps involved in testing a leaf for starch



# Testing a leaf for starch



# Starch test

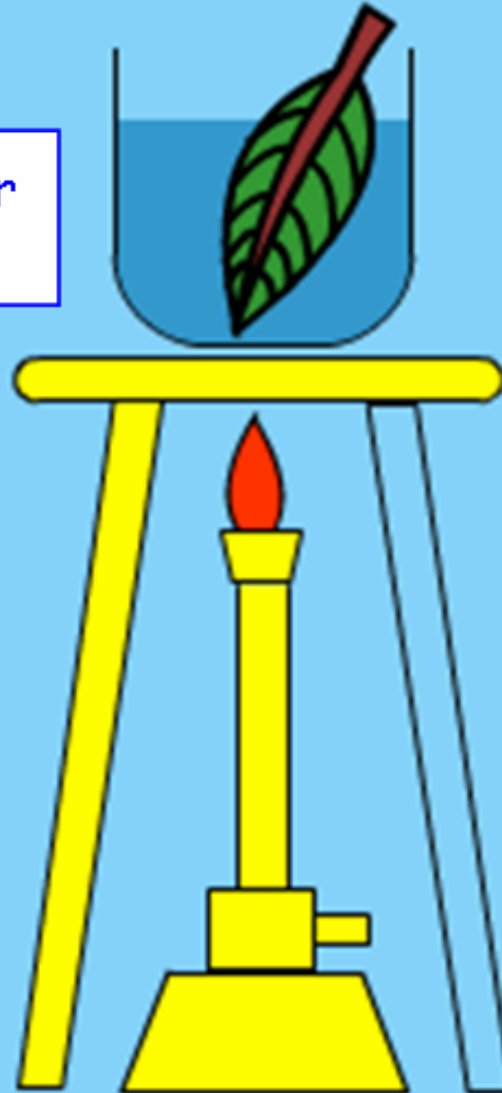
MAKE A KEY

describe  
explain

Boil the leaf for  
30 seconds

Kills leaf &  
ensures no  
further  
reactions  
occur

1.



## Starch test

- boiling tube with alcohol
- beaker
- leaf
- boiling water

Boil the leaf in ethanol for 10 minutes to remove the green chlorophyll.

2.



**ALCOHOL IS FLAMMABLE**

## Starch test

Dip the leaf in hot water to remove excess ethanol and soften it.



3.

## Starch test

Add iodine solution. If the leaf turns blue/black starch is present.



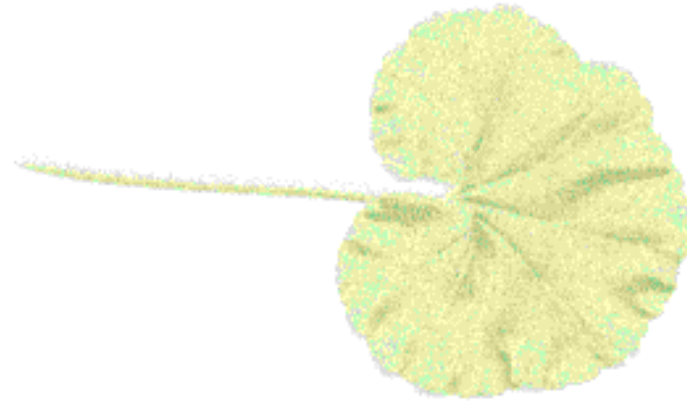
4.

**YELLOW/ORANGE  
MEANS**

**NO STARCH IS  
PRESENT**

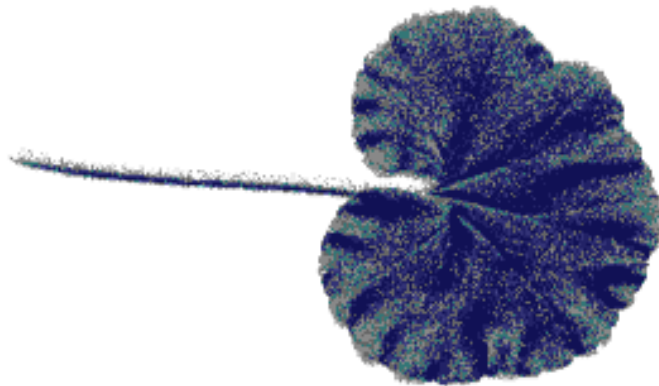


Leaf before testing

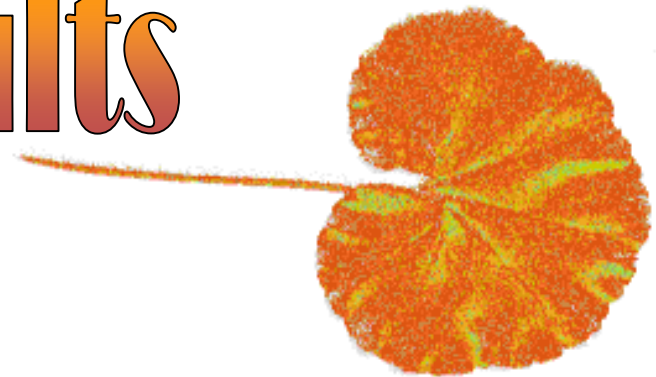


Leaf after boiling  
in ethanol

# results



blue/black: contains starch



orange: no starch



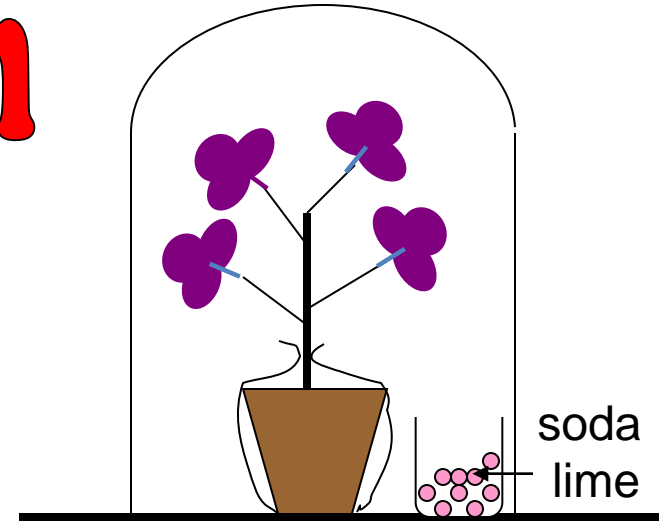
# LEARNING OUTCOMES

## ALL MUST...

- Carry out experiments to show that light, carbon dioxide and chlorophyll are needed for photosynthesis to occur
- State that sodium hydroxide (soda lime) is used to absorb carbon dioxide

# EXPERIMENTS TO SHOW FACTORS NEEDED FOR PHOTOSYNTHESIS

## destarch



**soda lime**  
**carbon dioxide**

**variegated**  
**chlorophyll**

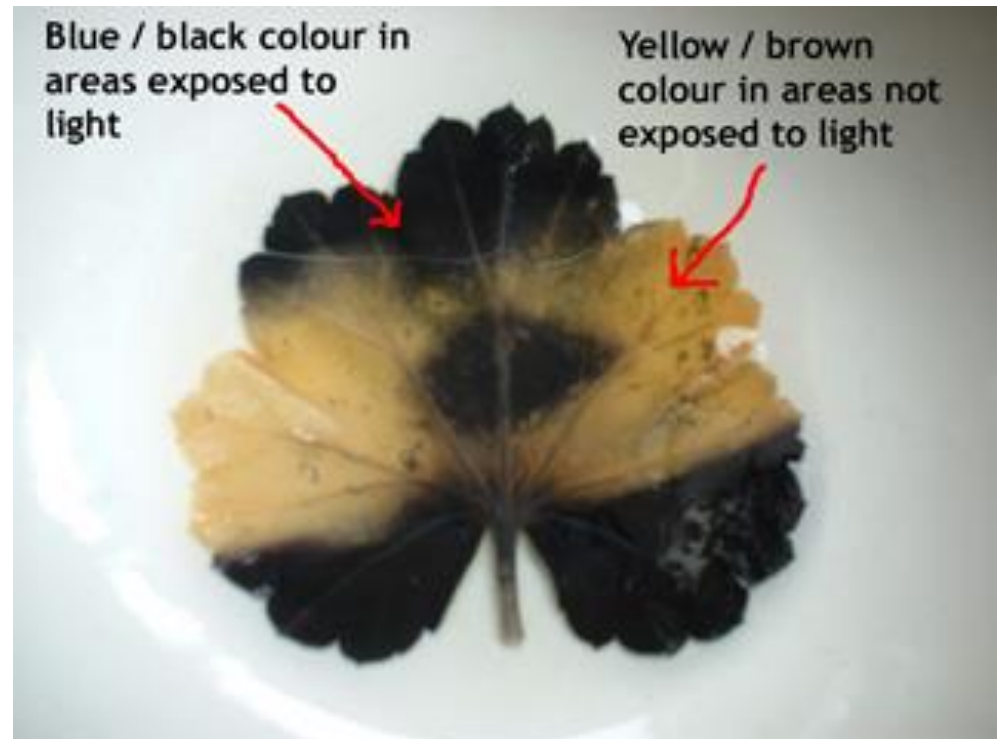
# PHOTOSYNTHESIS INVESTIGATIONS

## De-starching the plant

- Place the plant in a dark place for 48hrs
- This removes all the starch from the leaf
- It shows that any starch found has been produced during the period of the investigation

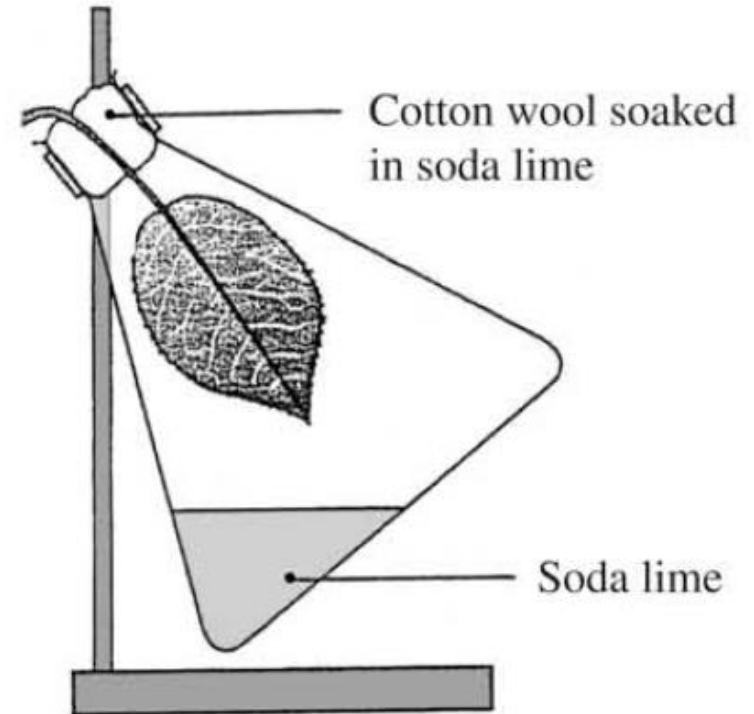
# Is light needed for photosynthesis?

- Partially cover a leaf with black paper or tinfoil.
- Leave in light for 48hrs
- Test for starch



# Is CO<sub>2</sub> needed for photosynthesis?

- Place a leaf in a conical flask containing soda lime (sodium hydroxide) (as below).
- The soda lime removes CO<sub>2</sub>
- Repeat with a second leaf but replace soda lime with water
- This is the control
- Leave in light for 48hrs
- Test for starch



# Is chlorophyll needed for photosynthesis?

- Use a variegated leaf (some parts have chlorophyll and others don't)
- Leave in light for 48hrs
- Test for starch





# QUESTION 1 & 2 HOMEWORK BOOKLET



- 1613 testing for Oxygen

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Testing for oxygen produced by underwater plants - Science Video](#)



# LEARNING OUTCOMES

ALL MUST...

- Explain how to collect and identify oxygen collected from photosynthesising pondweed

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

ALL MUST...

- Carry out investigations into the effects of light intensity, temperature and carbon dioxide on PS of pond weed

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

SOME MAY...

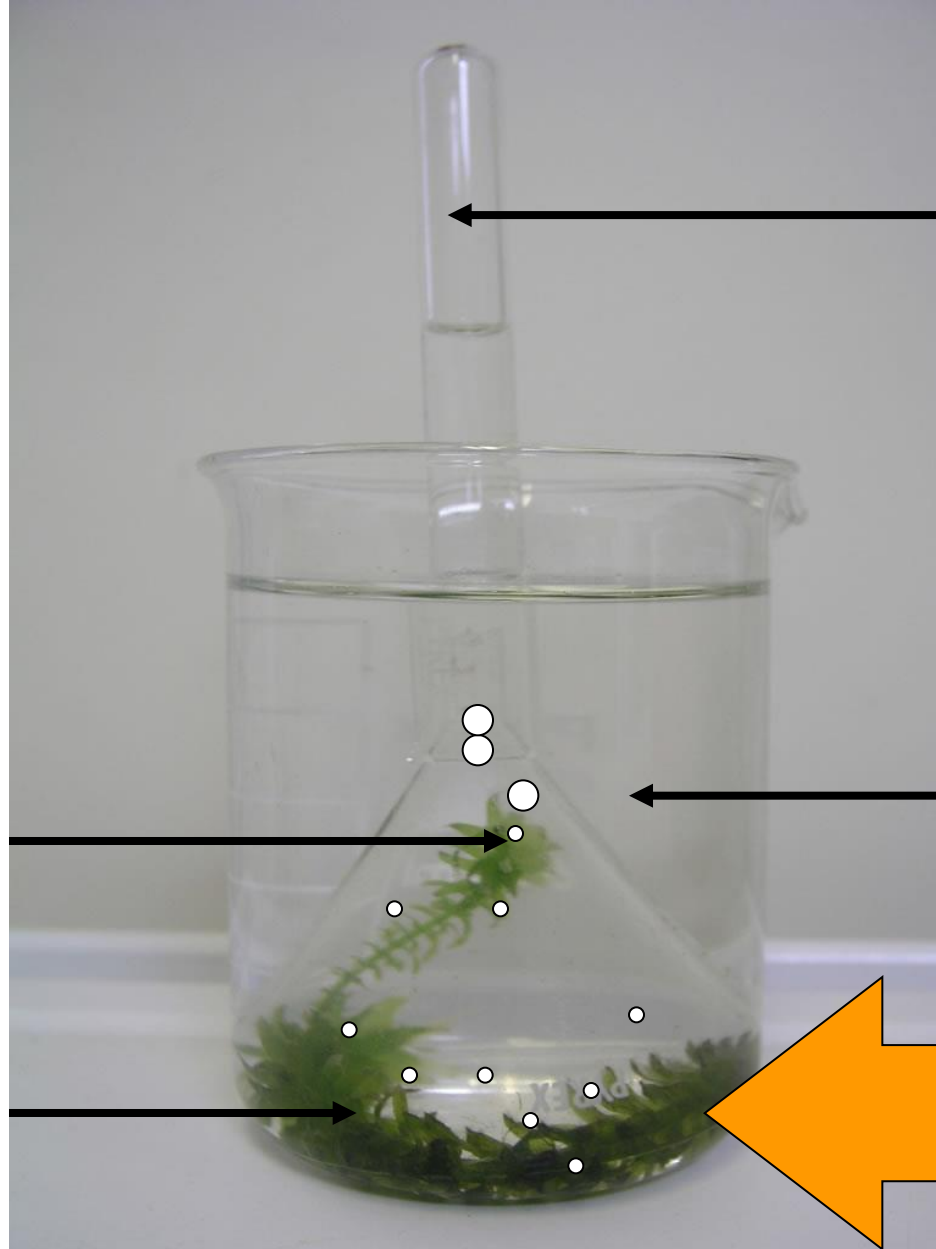
- Understand and explain how light intensity, temperature and carbon dioxide act as limiting factors on PS

# Measuring the rate of photosynthesis

The rate of photosynthesis can be measured using the apparatus below in two ways:

- The number of bubbles produced in a given time
- The volume of oxygen produced in a given time





**VOLUME  
OF  
OXYGEN**

**SODIUM  
HYDROGEN  
CARBONATE  
SOLUTION**

**OXYGEN  
BUBBLES**

**ELODEA**

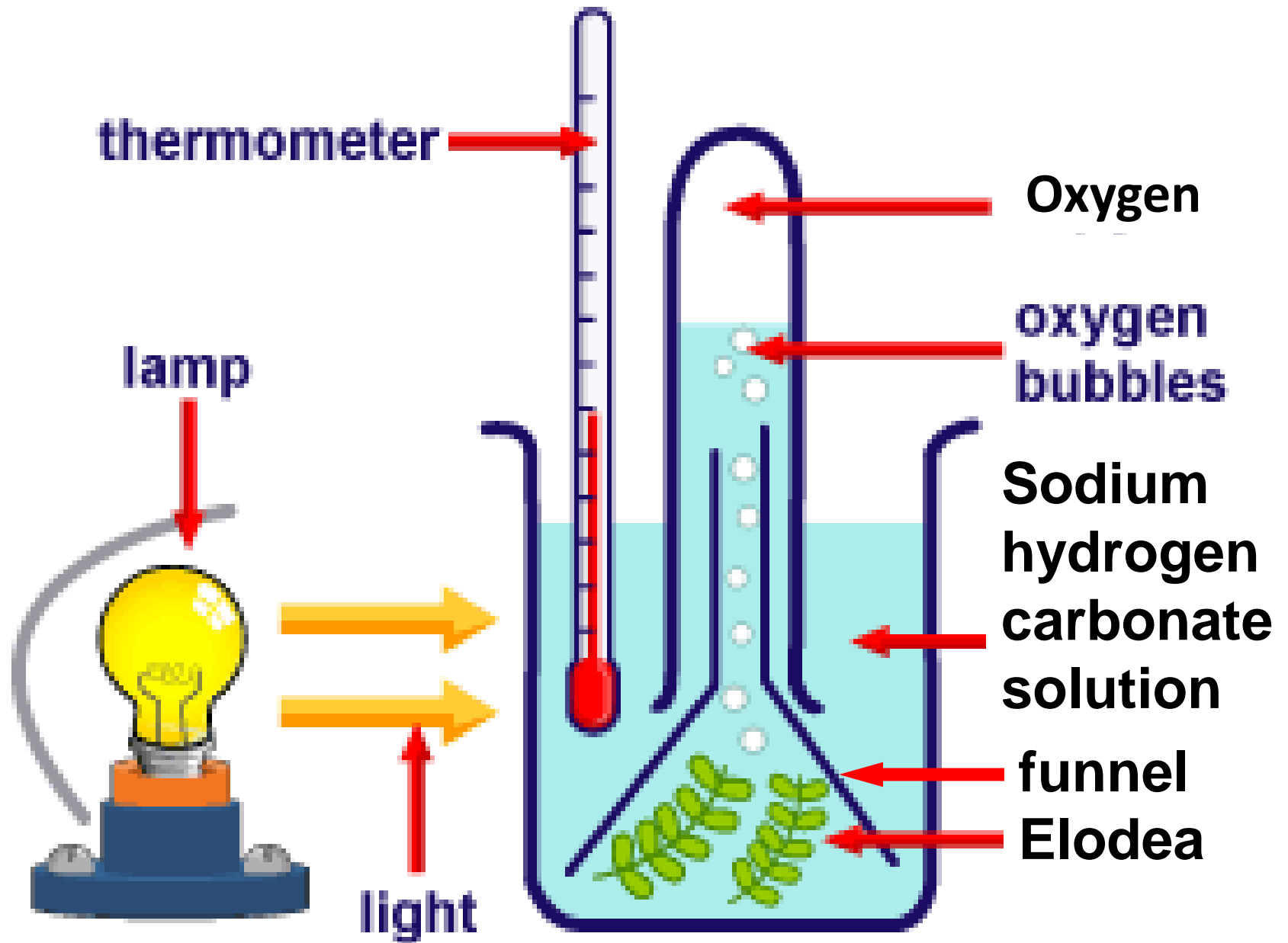
**LIGHT**

**MEASURING THE RATE OF PHOTOSYNTHESIS**

# Starter activity

- View algae balls placed at different distances from a lamp.
- Jot down any differences you see.
- Share with your pair & the class.





- This apparatus can be used to compare rates of photosynthesis in different conditions
- eg by moving the position of the lamp you can measure **the effect of light intensity on photosynthesis**
- The sodium hydrogen carbonate solution provides an excess of  $\text{CO}_2$
- A thermometer is used **to monitor the temperature**

# Factors affecting the rate of photosynthesis

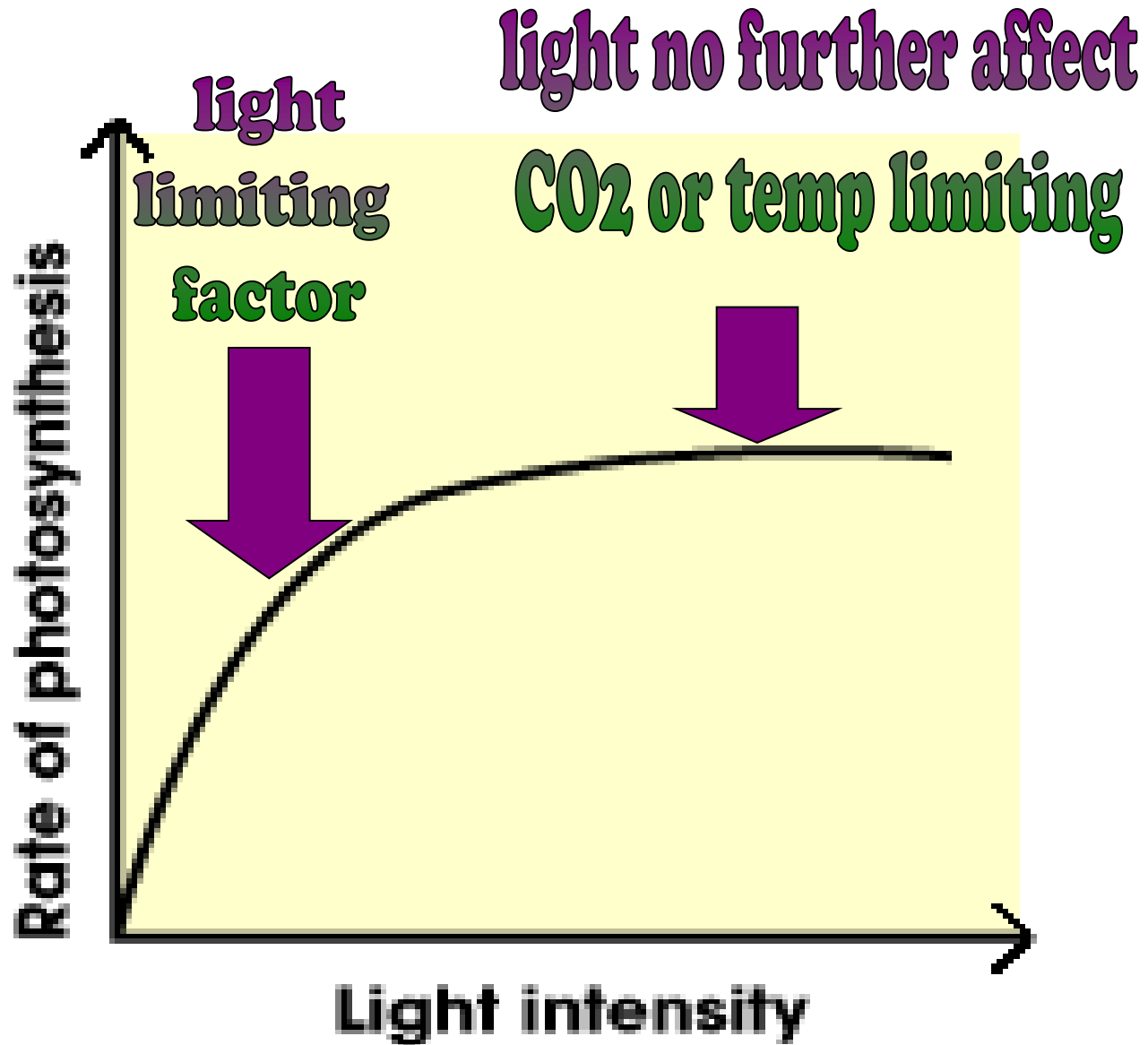
- The levels of CO<sub>2</sub>, light and temperature all affect the rate at which photosynthesis happens
- If photosynthesis happens at its maximum rate these factors must be at their optimum
- If one or more factors is in short supply then it limits the rate of photosynthesis
- It is said to be a LIMITING FACTOR

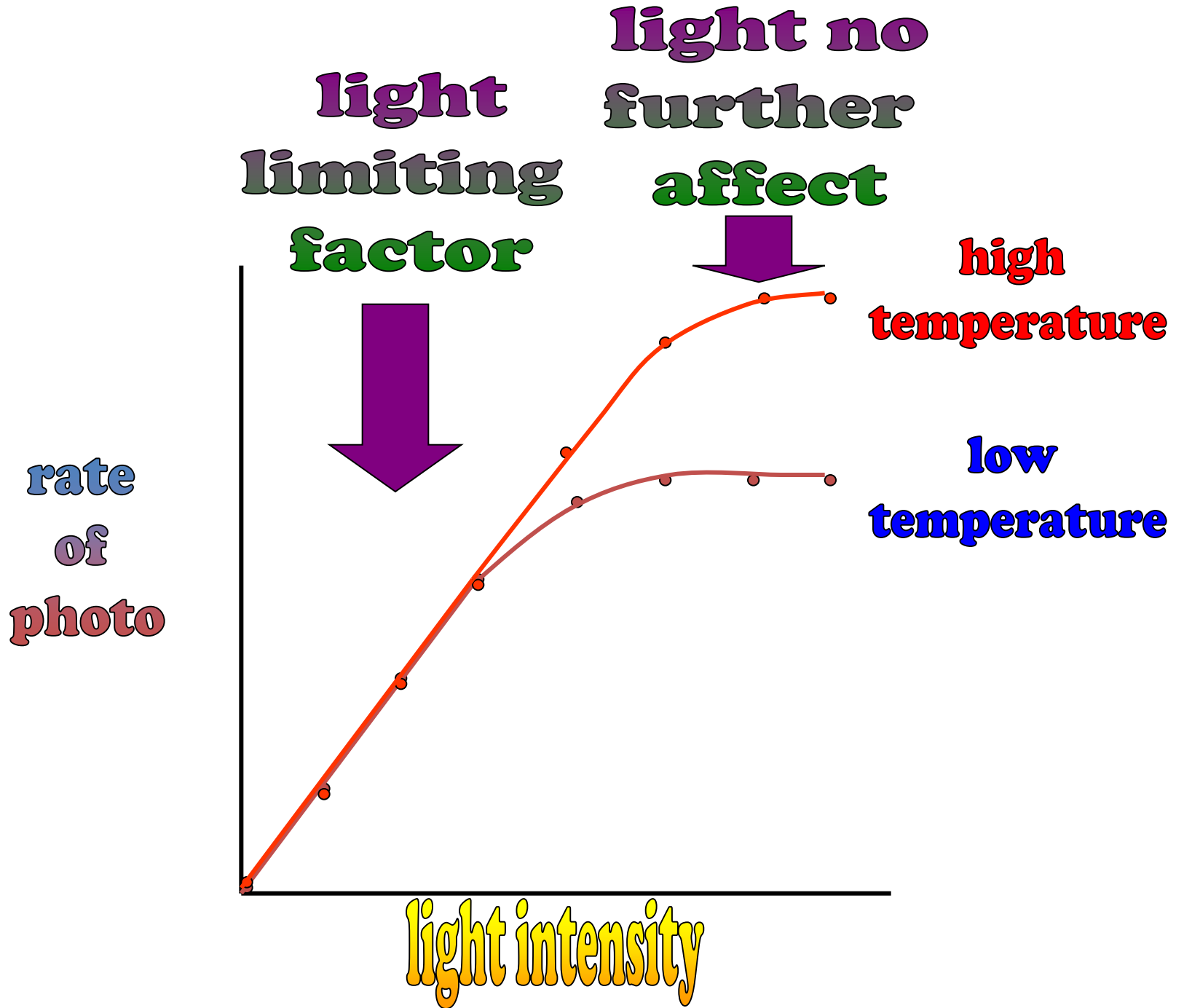
# Light Intensity

- As a lamp moves closer to the beaker the light intensity increases and the rate of photosynthesis increases to a point.
- After this light has no further affect; either CO<sub>2</sub> or temperature becomes a limiting factor and the line levels out.

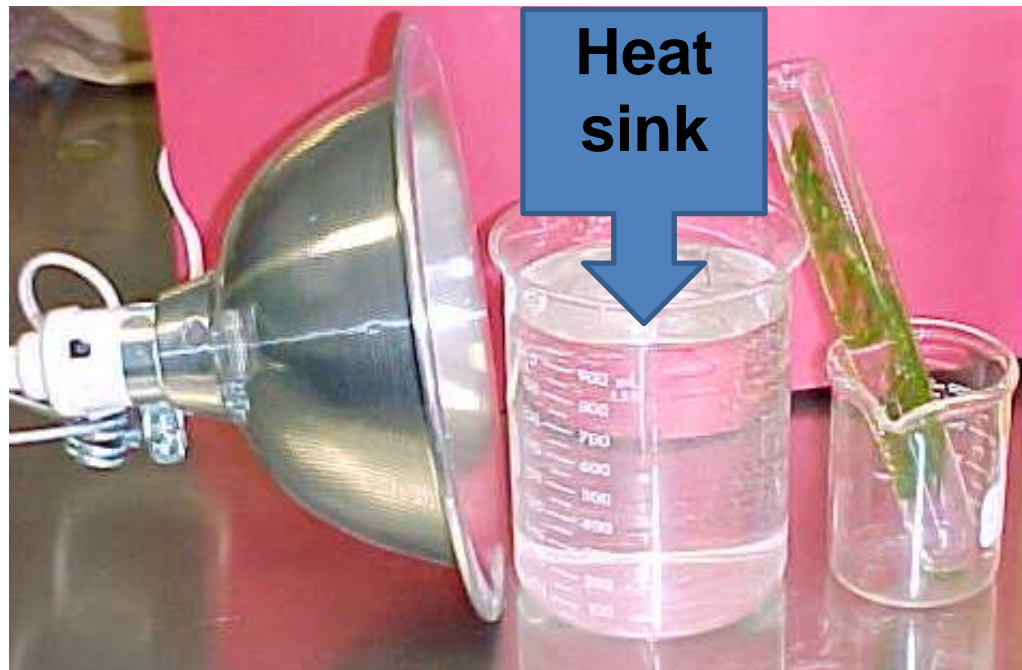


# Light Intensity





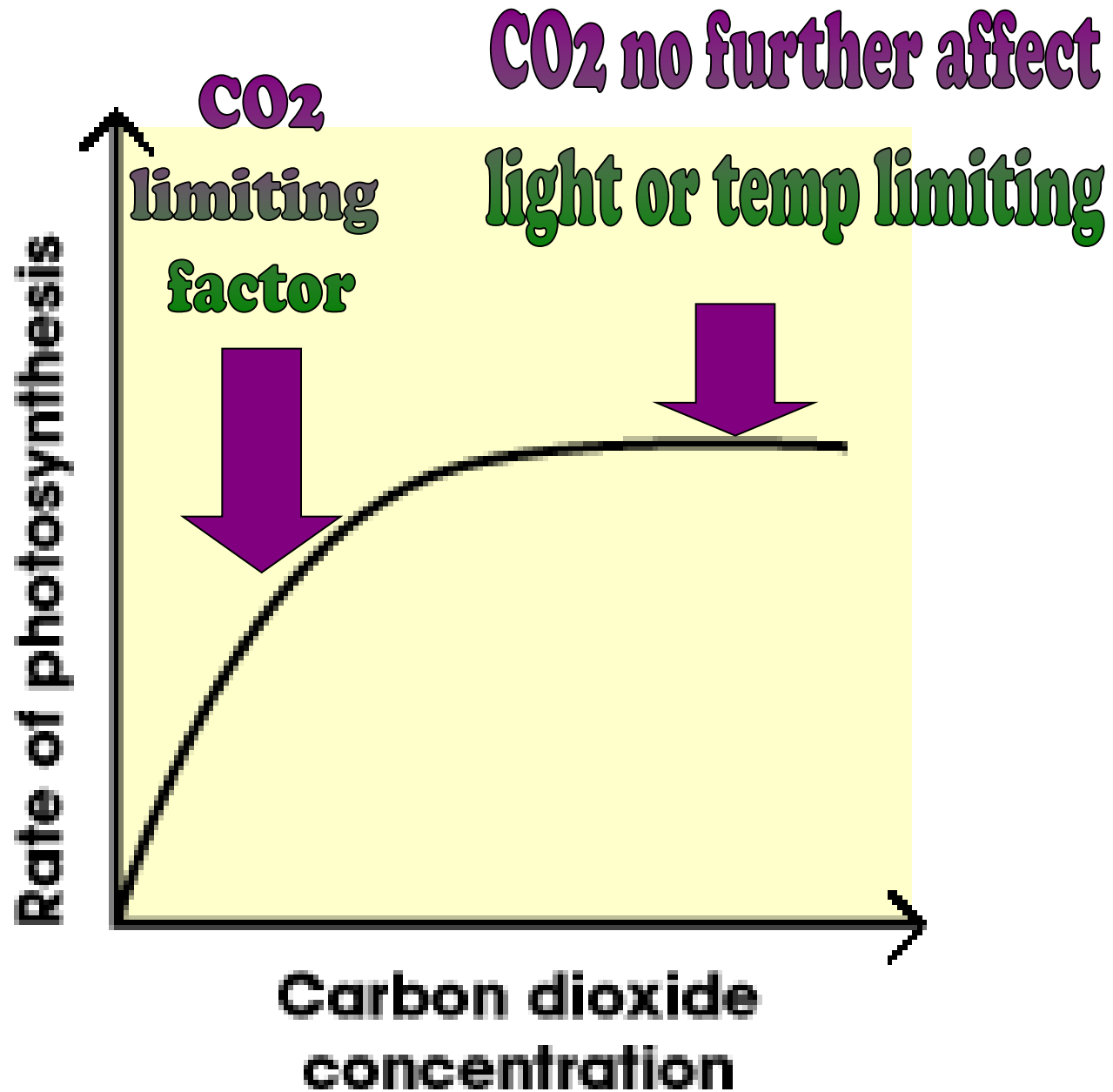
- A **heat sink** is used to prevent the heat from the lamp affecting the results
- This is a beaker of water that is placed between the lamp and the plant
- The water heats up, but does not affect the amount of light reaching the plant.



# CO<sub>2</sub> concentration

- As CO<sub>2</sub> concentration increases rate of photosynthesis increases to a point
- Then either light or temperature becomes a limiting factor.

# CO<sub>2</sub> concentration

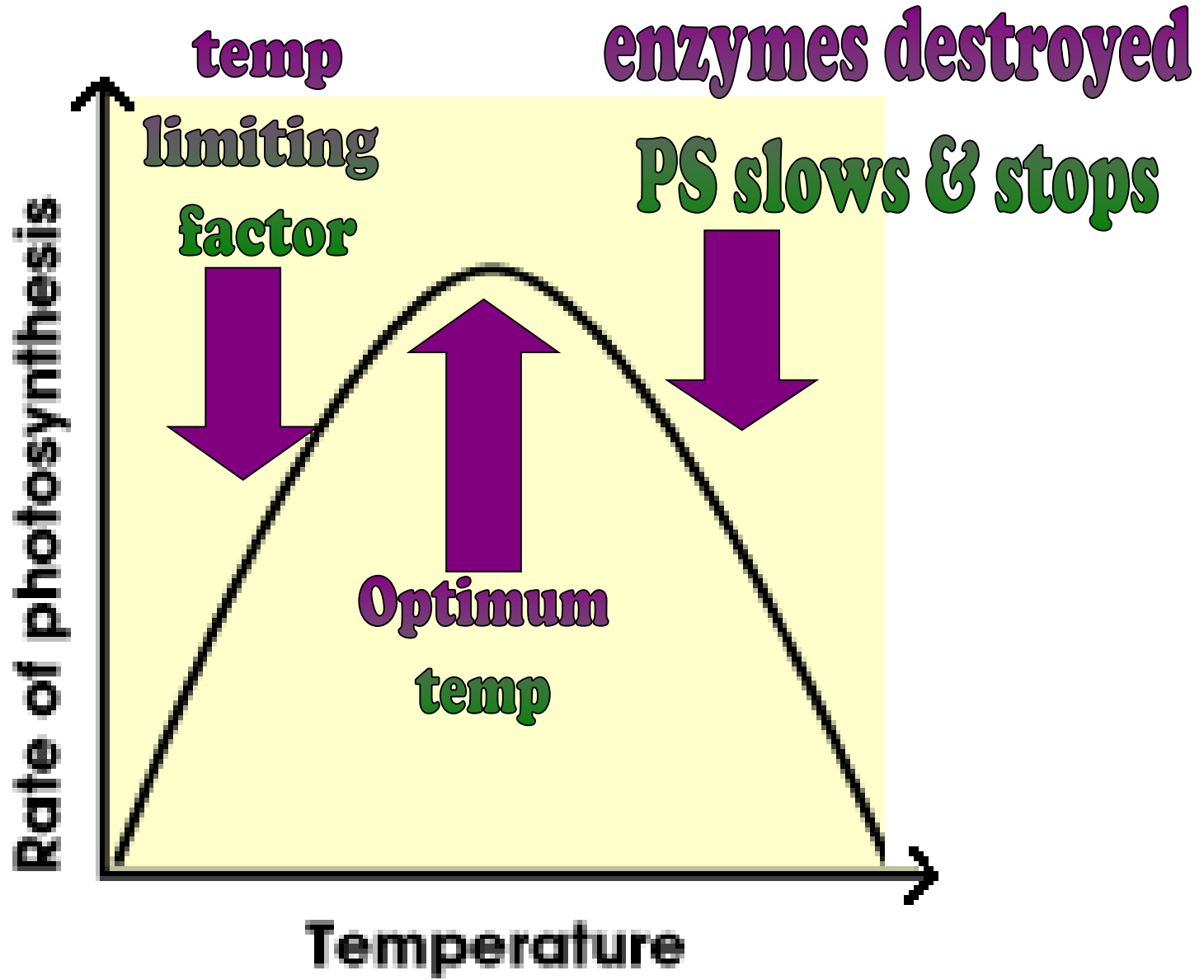


# Temperature

- As temperature increases the rate of photosynthesis increases to a point as there is more kinetic energy.
- At very high temperatures photosynthesis stops as enzymes are destroyed.



# Temperature concentration



- 6021 Raw materials & products  
[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Plants and photosynthesis - Science Video](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg8vqsBOFMw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIEJ0FfB-VI>



# QUESTION 3 & 5B HOMEWORK BOOKLET



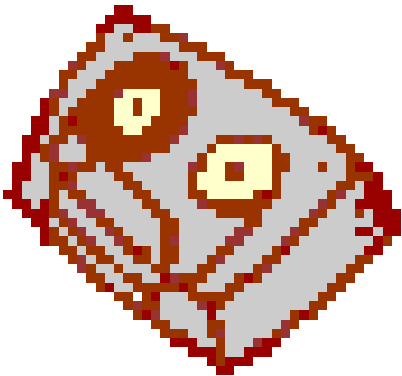
# LEARNING OUTCOMES

ALL MUST...

- Describe how the use of artificial lighting, carbon dioxide and fertilisers can increase commercial crop production, including the economic implications

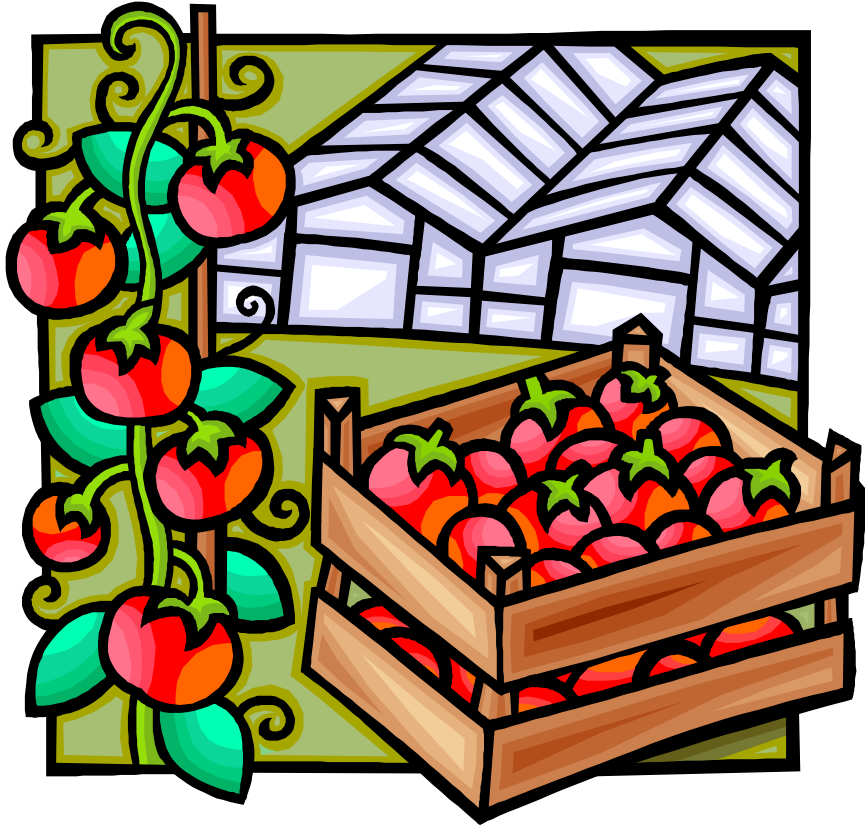
video

in the greenhouse



B68

# Crop Production



In crop production it may be possible and profitable to control the environmental conditions to increase productivity.



Sensors are used to monitor and control the conditions inside a greenhouse.

They detect changes in the conditions that are needed for photosynthesis.

By turning on and off specific apparatus it is possible to ensure there are no limiting factors so that photosynthesis and growth are at an optimum.

This also reduces running costs.

## Increase CO<sub>2</sub>

- Burn fossil fuels e.g. paraffin
- Pipe in from canisters



## Gas Exchange & humidity

Open/close windows

# GREENHOUSE

## LIGHT

Artificial lights used to increase light intensity, daylength AND season length



- MORE photosynthesis
- MORE growth
- BIGGER yield



## HEAT

- Use electric heaters
- Burn fossil fuels



## FERTILISERS

- Organic e.g. manure
- Inorganic e.g. NPK





- The grower must consider the cost of increasing carbon dioxide concentration and temperature in the greenhouse.
- The cost of the raw materials must be balanced by the increase in productivity to maximise profit.

# QUESTION 4

# HOMEWORK BOOKLET



# LEARNING OUTCOMES

**HIGHER  
TIER**

SOME MAY ...

- Use hydrogencarbonate indicator to investigate the relationship between respiration and photosynthesis in plants, and explain the compensation point

# BALANCING GASES

All living organisms respire **during the day AND night**

- Remember:-



This is the equation for respiration

(It is the reverse equation for Photosynthesis!!)

- In plants the glucose and oxygen produced in **photosynthesis** can be used for **respiration**.
- The carbon dioxide and water produced in **respiration** can be used **photosynthesis**.
- Sometimes the two processes **balance each other out**.



- Photosynthesis and respiration happen **during the day**
- Only respiration happens **at night**
- **Hydrogen carbonate indicator** can be used to show this relationship

Tube 1

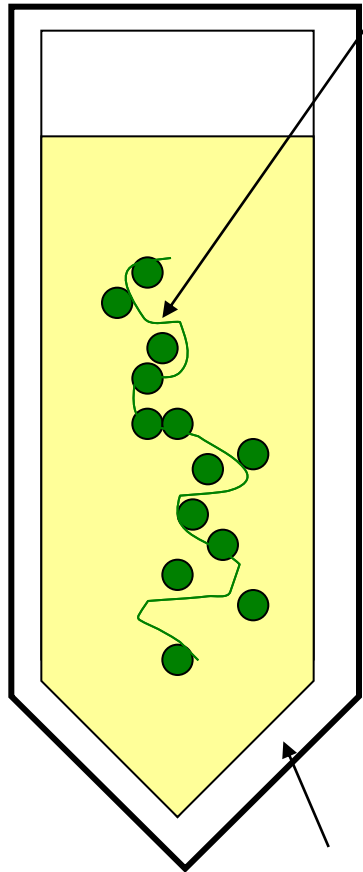
Tube 2

Tube 3

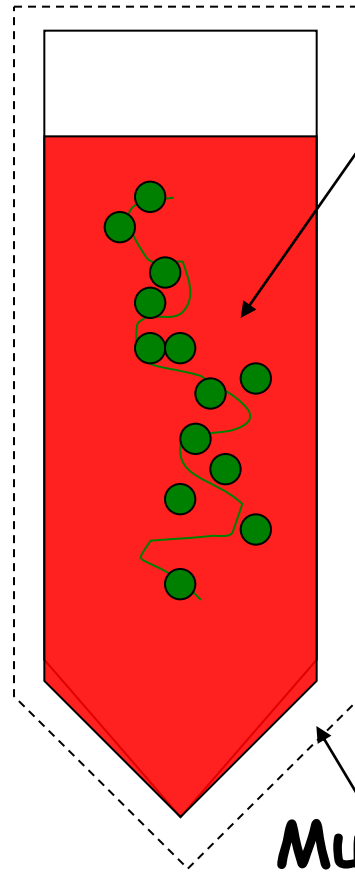
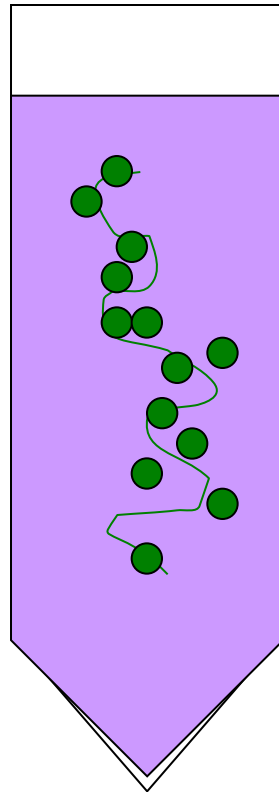
Tube 4

pondweed

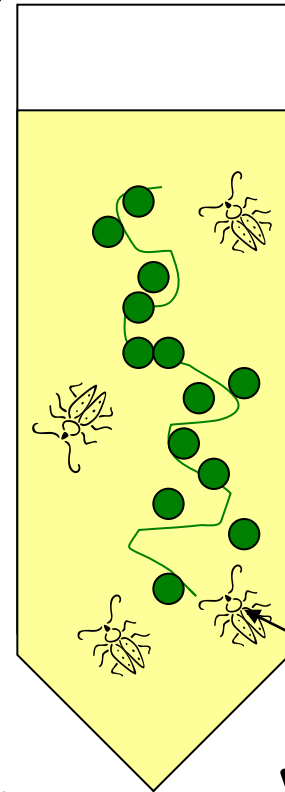
bicarbonate indicator



Tinfoil



Muslin



Water Beetles

Red - normal  $CO_2$       Yellow - high  $CO_2$       Purple - low  $CO_2$

## **TUBE 1**

The tinfoil stops **light** getting to the plant. This is like **night** when there is **no photosynthesis** but **respiration** still continues so **CO<sub>2</sub> is released** from the plant, turning the hydrogen carbonate indicator **YELLOW**.

## **TUBE 2**

There is a **lot of light** available to the plant.

During the day the rate of **photosynthesis is greater than** the rate of **respiration** so **more carbon dioxide is taken up** by the plant than is released in respiration. The **low CO<sub>2</sub> level** makes the hydrogen carbonate indicator **PURPLE**.

## **TUBE 3**

The muslin **reduces the light**, this mimics dawn and dusk when the **rate of photosynthesis is equal to the rate of respiration**.

All the CO<sub>2</sub> released in respiration is used in photosynthesis (we say there is **no net output of gas**).

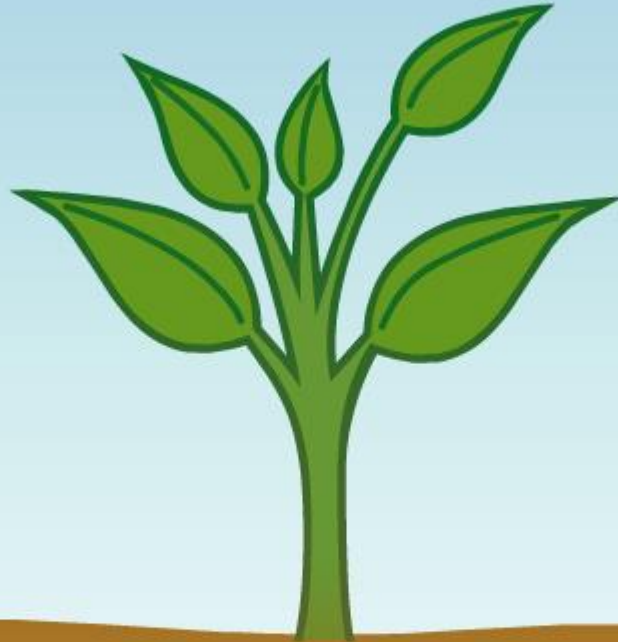
The bicarbonate indicator does not change colour, it remains **RED**.

THIS IS CALLED THE  
**COMPENSATION POINT**

## **TUBE 4**

The water beetles are **respiring** as well as the pond weed and therefore **more CO<sub>2</sub> is produced than can be taken up in photosynthesis**, causing the hydrogen carbonate indicator to turn **YELLOW**.

**Photosynthesis** **Respiration**



**Night**

**resp**

**photo**



# QUESTION 6

# HOMEWORK BOOKLET



Clip 6126

1.14

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Plant  
photosynthesis - Science Video](#)

Clip 6021 3.12

- [BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Plants and photosynthesis - Science Video](#)

Clip 10656 1.51

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Plants and photosynthesis - Science Video](#)

Clip 10655 3.13

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Adaptations of the leaf for photosynthesis - Science Video](#)

Clip 10608 1.57

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Photosynthesis  
and respiration in plants - Science Video](#)

Clip 10605

2.34

- [BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips -  
Photosynthesis in plant leaves - Science Video](#)



Clip 1613 0.39

[BBC - Learning Zone Class Clips - Testing for oxygen produced by underwater plants - Science Video](#)

DVD:

photosynthesis

Scientific Eye

Bio collection 2

20 mins

DVD:

photosynthesis

Short Circuit

Bio collection 2

20 mins

DVD:

photosynthesis

Science Bank

Bio collection 2

15 mins

DVD:

photosynthesis

Biovideo

Bio collection 5

30 mins

(old but some good bits)

DVD:

plants for food

Scientific Eye

Bio collection 5

20 mins

DVD:

plant nutrition

GCSE Bitesize Revision

3 mins



DVD:

photosynthesis

curriculum bites 11-14

7 mins

DVD:

photosynthesis

curriculum bites 14-16