



SCIENCE Quiz #2



Complete your Young Scientist badge here!

How much do you know about plants? Identify these plants from the clues provided. These plants are sometimes used in candy making. Take on the challenge!

*These plants are all available in Science Centre's Ecogarden.



PLANT 1

Clue 1:
The seeds of the pod are made into a delectable universal delicacy.

Clue 2:
It is also known as the chocolate tree.



PLANT 2

Clue 1:
The leaf extract is 30 times sweeter than sugar.

Clue 2:
Its other name is Sweet Leaf.



PLANT 3

Clue 1:
This plant belongs to the grass family.

Clue 2:
Its juice is widely sold at drink stalls.



PLANT 4

Clue 1:
This plant has two types of flowers.

Clue 2:
It is used for making corn syrup.



Answers

PLANT 1 COCOA



The cocoa tree has dark green drooping leaves and small white odourless flowers that grow along its main branches and trunk. The flowers are pollinated by midges that live at the base of the tree.

After 3 to 5 years, the tree starts to produce pods (oblong-shaped fruits). Each pod contains 30 - 40 seeds arranged in a row and embedded in white pulp.

These seeds are the raw material for commercial cocoa, cocoa butter, cocoa liquor, cocoa powder and chocolate.

This plant, also known as Sweet Herb of Paraguay, originated from the north-eastern region of Paraguay.

The dried leaves are about 30 times sweeter than sugar. Due to its economic potential as a natural sweetener, it is planted in many other countries like South America, China, Korea, Japan and Southeast Asia.



PLANT 2 STEVIA

PLANT 3 SUGARCANE



Not only is sugarcane juice a popular thirst-quencher, it is also used in traditional Chinese medicine. It is said to promote the expulsion of phlegm from respiratory passages and stimulate digestion.

Straws made from sugarcane fibre have been gaining its popularity as part of conservation efforts recently. These patented straws claim to be 100% biodegradable in soil.

This is an annual (a plant whose life cycle only lasts for one year) that can reach a height of 2-4m.

Upon fertilisation, the female flowers develop into ears (cobs of corn). The ears are usually covered by leafy husks, with silks exposed on the top. These silks are the remains of styles of the female flowers.

Also known as corn, the fruit is a staple in many cultures and is eaten boiled, roasted or in soups and cooked dishes. It is also processed into breakfast cereals, flour or starch and used as flavouring for desserts and ice cream.



PLANT 4 MAIZE