Friday, April 3, 2020

**WHAT PLANTS NEED TO GROW**

Did you get to go outside to look for some new plants starting to grow? How about trees starting to blossom? Plants are LIVING things just like you and me! A plant LIVES and GROWS! Well -- many plants will be starting to grow so let's talk about what a plant needs to help it live.

o Remember the roots on the plant? What were they? They were the little stringy things on the bottom of the plant. Where do the roots go? They need to go into the **SOIL** (dirt) so they anchor the plant into the soil and FEED the plant.

o WHAT do plants need for FOOD? The soil contains many nutrients ( that's good food) to keep the plant healthy. Sometimes people will add some FERTILIZER into the soil to make it healthier. The plant pulls the nutrients out of the soil through the ROOTS**.**

o There's something else the plant pulls out of the soil that is very important! **WATER!**  Plants NEED WATER to stay alive. Where does the WATER come from? For plants that live OUTSIDE, the water can come from two places -- Can you think of what those places might be? Water falling from the sky is called........RAIN!! Yes - that's one of the sources of water. What about water that comes out of your house through a HOSE --- whenever it doesn't rain enough - you should water your plants with a hose.

o Plants also need the **AIR** that's everywhere around us! Plants cannot live if there isn't any air!

o Plants need one more very important thing to live --- **SUNLIGHT!!** The SUN helps the plant to grow big and strong! Some plants like a LOT of sun and some plants like a little less sun but a plant won't grow in the dark If you put a plant in a dark, dark, corner of your basement it would die (even if you gave it water). Plants that you might have in your house can get light from the lights in your house if they are not near a window that gets sunlight

SO LET'S REVIEW THE THINGS A PLANT NEEDS TO LIVE!

1. **SOIL** --- to hold the plant in the ground with its roots.

2. **LIGHT** - the plant needs sunlight for warmth

3. **WATER** - the plant needs water from the rain or from you!

4**. AIR** -- the plant needs fresh AIR all around it!

Please color WHAT PLANTS NEED . Then you can fold it into a little book!