

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dandelions

By Anita Venegas



**S**ome people love to see yellow dandelions in bloom. Children love to pick the puffy white flowers and blow the seeds. Others hate the plants. Gardeners pluck them from their roots or spray them with weed killer.

Dandelions grow nearly everywhere in the world. Small animals like mice and rabbits eat them. Butterflies and bees drink their nectar.

The life cycle of a dandelion begins with a tiny seed. The wind can carry the seed for miles before it settles into the ground. With sunlight and water, jagged leaves soon pop up. A hollow stem grows between the leaves. A flower appears at the top of the stem. The root of the plant grows several inches into the ground. The yellow flower stays in bloom for a few days. Then the petals close up.



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- b. the beginning of a plant's life when it first starts to grow
  - c. the different places where a living thing lives throughout its life
  - d. the stages a living thing goes through from the beginning to the end of its life
2. What two things does the article say a dandelion seed needs in order to grow leaves?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
3. The pictures below both show what a dandelion looks like at different times in its life cycle. Circle the one that happens first after the seed is planted.



# ANSWER KEY

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