Plant Life Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:
Plant life questions worksheet (pages 2-3),
18 plant life fact cards (pages 4-8),
scissors and scotch tape

Preparation
Print the fact cards and cut them apart.
Make copies of the plant life questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.
Hide all 18 plant life fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them.
You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.

Activity
Students receive copies of the question worksheet. They have to search the classroom to find the fact cards to answer the questions.
After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

Management tips
You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.
You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.
Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.
Examples of good hiding spots might include:

• sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
• the back of the classroom door
• lying flat on the bookshelf
• on the back of the teacher's chair
• on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.
Fact Card 1: What type of tree is the tallest tree in the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 2: What type of tree is the oldest in the world?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 3: What is the name of the substance that makes plants green?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 4: Which type of plant can grow over one meter in a single day?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 5: Name five things a Venus flytrap might eat.
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 6: Do plants make food in their stems, flowers, roots or leaves?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 7: Name two things a plant needs roots for.
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 8: About how many kernels are on an ear of corn?
__________________________________________________________________

Fact Card 9: What is the largest type of plant in the world that does not have a wooden stem?
__________________________________________________________________
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<tr>
<th>Fact Card 10: Why are cactus stems usually very thick?</th>
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<td>Fact Card 11: In which direction do sunflowers point?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 12: What do flowers produce?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 13: What do ferns have instead of seeds?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 14: How many species of plants exist on Earth?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 15: What type of gas do animals and people need to stay alive?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 16: What is the largest type of seed in the world?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 17: How are strawberry seeds unique?</td>
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<td>Fact Card 18: What African tree species has roots that are 120 meters deep?</td>
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Fact Card 1

**Plant Life**

Giant Redwood trees in California are the tallest trees in the world. They can grow to be over 112 meters (370 feet) tall.

Fact Card 2

**Plant Life**

Bristlecone Pine trees are the oldest trees in the world. One Bristlecone Pine tree in California is over 4,700 years old!

Fact Card 3

**Plant Life**

Chlorophyll is the substance in plants that makes the leaves green. Plants use chlorophyll to make food and oxygen.

Fact Card 4

**Plant Life**

Bamboo is one of the fastest growing plants in the world. It can grow over 1 meter (about 3 feet) in a single day.
A Venus flytrap is one of the only plants that can eat animals! When a fly or other small animal lands on its mouth, the Venus flytrap snaps shut and eats it! Venus flytraps can eat flies, beetles, butterflies, caterpillars, and even frogs!

Plants are able to make their own food in their leaves. The type of food they make is sugar.

A plant uses its roots to soak up vitamins and minerals. It also stores food in its roots.

There are about 800 kernels on an ear of corn. Each kernel is a seed that can produce a new corn plant.
**Fact Card 9:**

**Plant Life**

Bananas grow on tall plants, not trees. They are the largest plants in the world that do not have wooden stems.

**Fact Card 10:**

**Plant Life**

Cactus stems are usually very thick, because they store water inside. Cactus roots are usually very long, so they can find water over a large area.

**Fact Card 11:**

**Plant Life**

A sunflower will always point towards the sun. It will even move as the sun moves across the sky!

**Fact Card 12:**

**Plant Life**

Flowers produce seeds for a plant. Seeds usually appear in the center of a flower, when the flower's petals fall off.
Some plants (like Ferns) don't have seeds. They have spores on the back of their leaves. Spores fall off the leaf and make a new plant.

There are over 375,000 known species of plants on Earth.

People and animals need a type of gas called oxygen to stay alive. Oxygen is made by plants! Plants need a gas called carbon dioxide (made by people and animals) to stay alive.

The coconut is the largest seed in the world.
Strawberries are the only fruits with the seeds on the outside.

Wild fig trees in South Africa have roots that are almost 120 meters (about 400 feet) deep in the ground.
**Plant Life Scavenger Hunt**

| Fact Card 1: What type of tree is the tallest tree in the world? | **the giant redwood** |
| Fact Card 2: What type of tree is the oldest in the world? | **the bristlecone pine** |
| Fact Card 3: What is the name of the substance that makes plants green? | **chlorophyll** |
| Fact Card 4: Which type of plant can grow over one meter in a single day? | **bamboo** |
| Fact Card 5: Name five things a Venus flytrap might eat. | **flies, beetles, butterflies, caterpillars, and frogs** |
| Fact Card 6: Do plants make food in their stems, flowers, roots or leaves? | **leaves** |
| Fact Card 7: Name two things a plant needs roots for. | **soak up vitamins and minerals; store food** |
| Fact Card 8: About how many kernels are on an ear of corn? | **about 800** |
| Fact Card 9: What is the largest type of plant in the world that does not have a wooden stem? | **banana plant** |
because they store water inside

Fact Card 11:
In which direction do sunflowers point?

towards the sun

Fact Card 12:
What do flowers produce?

seeds

Fact Card 13:
What do ferns have instead of seeds?

spores

Fact Card 14:
How many species of plants exist on Earth?

over 375,000

Fact Card 15:
What type of gas do animals and people need to stay alive?

oxygen

Fact Card 16:
What is the largest type of seed in the world?

the coconut

Fact Card 17:
How are strawberry seeds unique?

they are the only fruit with the seeds on the outside

Fact Card 18:
What African tree species has roots that are 120 meters deep?

wild fig trees