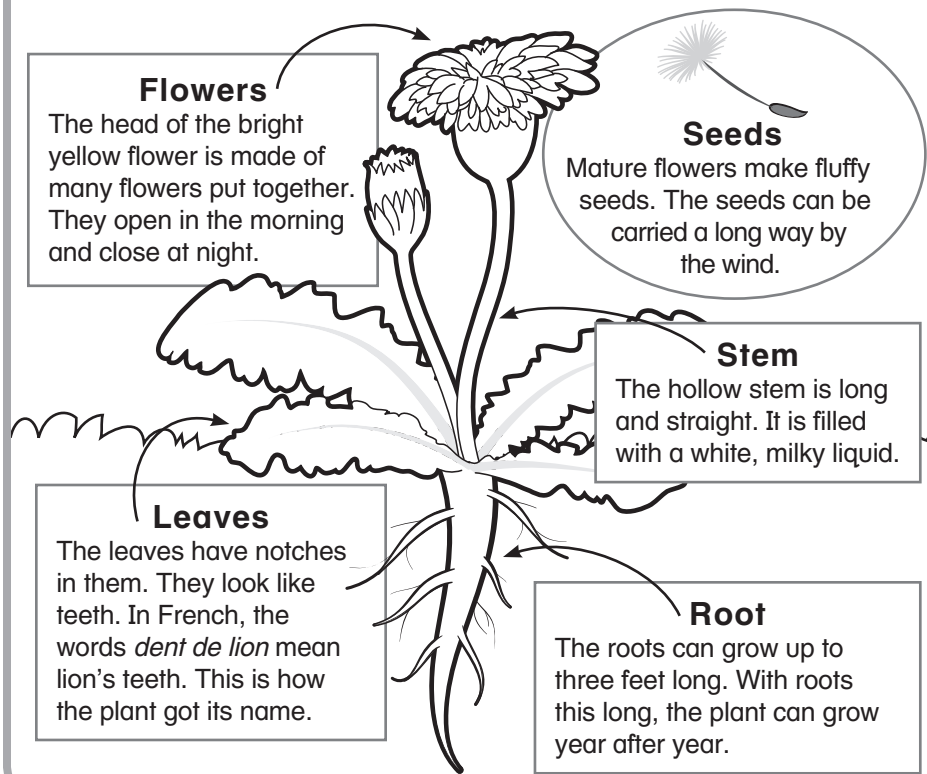


More Than a Weed

Dandelions

Some people think of dandelions as weeds. They try to remove them from their lawns. The settlers who came to the New World many years ago did not think this plant was a pest. They grew these plants in their gardens and used many of their parts. Did you know the leaves from young dandelion plants can be tossed in salads or cooked like spinach? The liquid that is found in its stem can be used to treat bee stings. The roots can be roasted or used as tea.



Use the paragraph and the diagram to answer the questions.

1. What does a dandelion's flower look like? Color it to match. _____
2. How did the dandelion get its name? _____

3. What is found inside a dandelion's stem? How is it useful? _____

4. What parts of a dandelion can be eaten? How might they be prepared? _____

5. What part of the dandelion can be up to three feet long? _____

Bonus: How did the dandelion diagram help you understand the facts in the paragraph?

Answer Key

1. The head of the bright yellow flower is made of many flowers put together.
2. The leaves have notches in them. They look like teeth. In French, the words *dent de lion* mean lion's teeth.
3. a white, milky liquid; It can be used to treat bee stings.
4. The leaves from young plants can be tossed in salads or cooked like spinach. The roots can be roasted or used as tea.
5. roots

Bonus: Answers will vary.