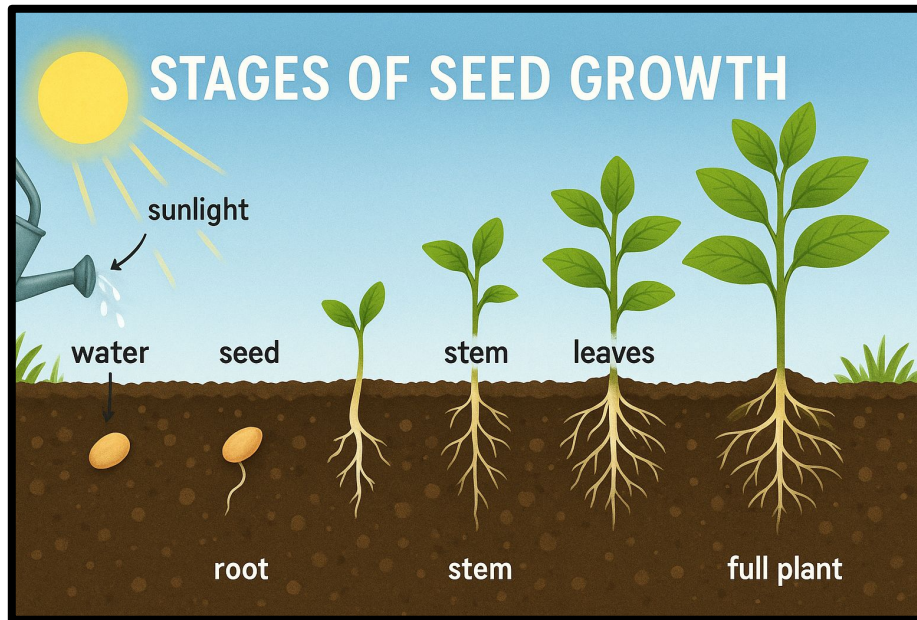


Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ow (snow)

"This nonfiction story focuses on the 'ow' sound as in 'snow.' Watch for words like 'grow,' 'slow,' and 'below' as you learn how plants change!"



How Plants Grow

Plants grow from seeds that are planted in the ground.

They need sun, water, and care to grow strong.

Some plants grow fast, and some grow slow.

Farmers sow seeds in rows to help them grow in neat lines.

As plants grow, they push below the soil and reach toward the light.

If you watch closely, you'll know when a sprout begins to show!

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

grow

slow

sow

row

know



Name: _____

How Plants Grow

1. What do plants need to grow?

- A. Music, ice, and shoes
- B. Sun, water, and care
- C. Wind, paper, and toys
- D. Rocks, trees, and paint

2. How do farmers keep seeds in lines?

- A. They toss them in the air
- B. They plant them in rows
- C. They glue them on paper
- D. They draw them with chalk

3. Fill in the blank:

As plants grow, they push _____ the soil and reach toward the light.

4. Why do some plants grow faster than others?

5. What would you want to plant and watch grow?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *ow* as in "snow" (/ō/ sound)

Genre: *Nonfiction – Life Science / Plants*

High-Frequency Words: *they, need, from, some, when*

Before Reading

1. This story includes "ow" words like *grow, slow, row, below, sow, and know*.
 2. Have you ever planted something or watched a garden grow?
 3. What helps a seed turn into a plant?
-

During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Encourage readers to stretch and blend "ow" words like *grow, slow, and row* as long o words.
 2. Watch for target skill words that explain each part of plant growth.
 3. How do farmers plant seeds so they grow in neat lines?
 4. Read the final sentence with a sense of excitement and wonder.
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After Reading

1. Retell the steps a plant takes as it grows.
 2. Why is it important to care for seeds after you plant them?
 3. What's something you would plant if you had a garden?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "ow" words in the passage.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again with a calm and hopeful voice—like a gardener watching something grow.
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Activity Idea

Draw a small plant growing below the ground with roots and above the ground with leaves and light. Label parts using "ow" words like *grow, slow, row, sow, below, or know*. Write one sentence about how planting takes time.

Coaching Tip

Nature-based nonfiction builds curiosity and care—link decoding to the cycle of growth to deepen meaning.

