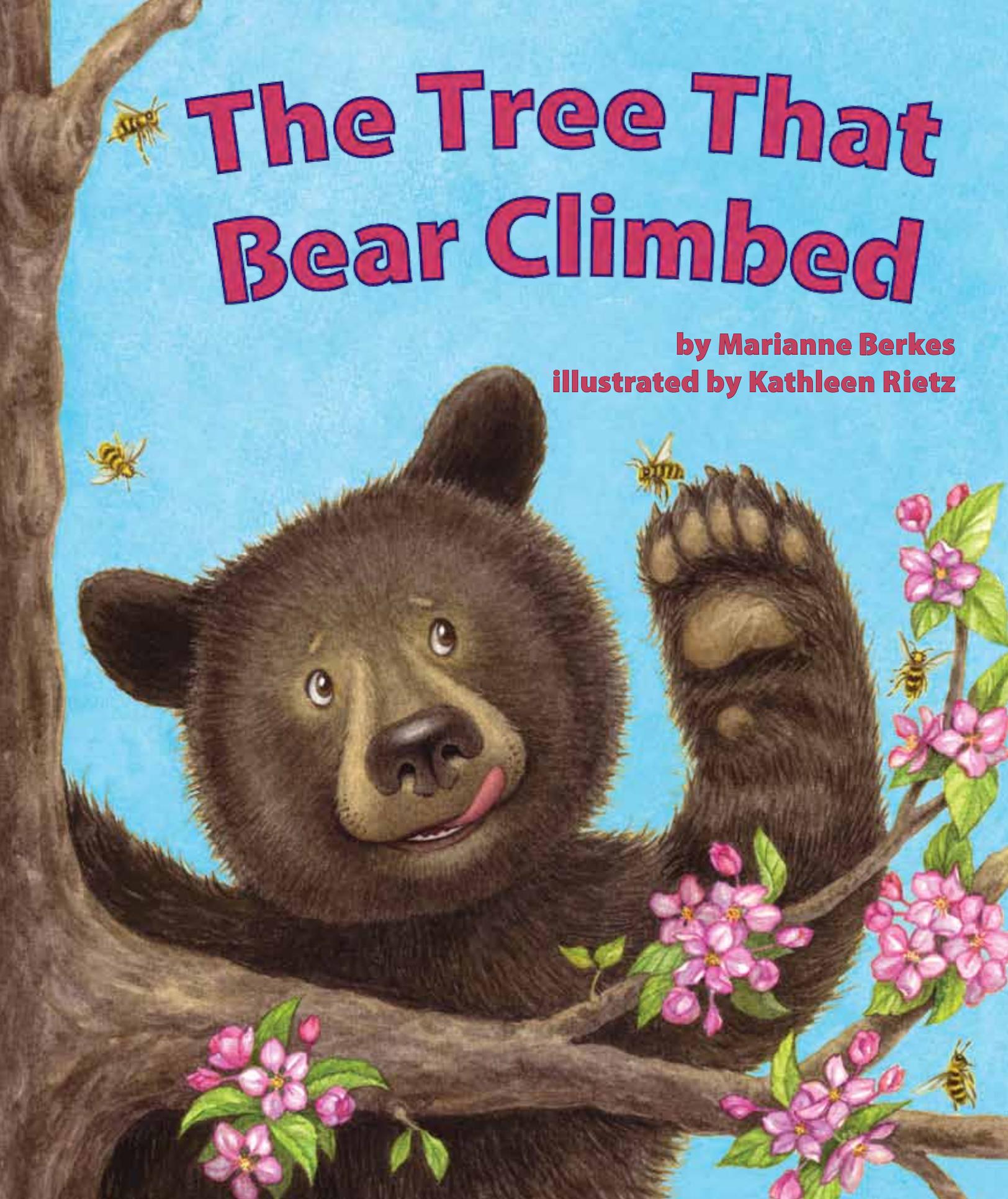


The Tree That Bear Climbed

by Marianne Berkes
illustrated by Kathleen Rietz



The Tree That Bear Climbed



The Tree That Bear Climbed is a creative twist on the classic, *The House that Jack Built*. Young listeners and early readers will love the rhythmic repetition as they learn about the many parts of a tree. Beginning with the roots that anchor the tree, this cumulative verse story climbs to a surprise ending. Why is bear so eager to climb the tree and what happens when he gets to the top?

It's so much more than a picture book . . . this book is specifically designed to be both a fun-to-read story and a launch pad for discussions and learning. Whether read at home or in a classroom, we encourage adults to do the activities with the young children in their lives. Free online resources and support at www.ArbordalePublishing.com include:

- For Creative Minds as seen in the book (in English & Spanish):
 - Basic Needs of Plants
 - Plant Body Part Matching Activity
 - How Plants and Animals Interact
 - Hands On: Plant Experiments
- Teaching Activities (to do at home or school):
 - Reading Questions
 - Math
 - Language Arts
 - Geography
 - Science
 - Coloring Pages
- Interactive Quizzes: Reading Comprehension, For Creative Minds, and Math Word Problems
- English and Spanish Audiobooks
- Related Websites
- Aligned to State and Core Standards
- Accelerated Reader and Reading Counts Quizzes
- Lexile and Fountas & Pinnell Reading Levels

eBooks with Auto-Flip, Auto-Read, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio available for purchase online.

Thanks to Lisa Davis, Associate Director of Education at the Denver Botanic Gardens, for reviewing the accuracy of the information in this book.

Award-winning author **Marianne Berkes** (pronounced Ber-kess with two syllables) is a retired teacher and librarian who turned her love of nature and teaching into writing informational picture books. In addition to *The Tree That Bear Climbed* and *Animalogy* for Arbordale, some of Marianne's other recent and award-winning titles include: *Going Home*, *The Mystery of Animal Migration*; *Over in the Ocean, in a Coral Reef*; *Over in the Jungle, a Rainforest Rhyme*; *Going Around the Sun*, *Some Planetary Fun*, and *Marsh Morning*. Visit her website at www.MarianneBerkes.com.

A lifelong artist and lover of nature, **Kathleen Rietz** was drawing and painting before she learned to write her name. Kathleen received her formal training from the American Academy of Art in Chicago, IL. In addition to illustrating *The Tree That Bear Climbed*, *Desert Baths*, *Prairie Storms*, and *Champ's Story: Dogs Get Cancer Too!* for Arbordale, Kathleen's other books include *Conce Tu Parque*, *Little Black Ant on Park Street*, *The ABC's of Yoga for Kids*, and *Prayers for Children*. She taught art to children and adults at the Community School of the Arts at historic Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL, and through a local home school program in her community. For more information about Kathleen, visit her website at www.kathleenrietz.com.



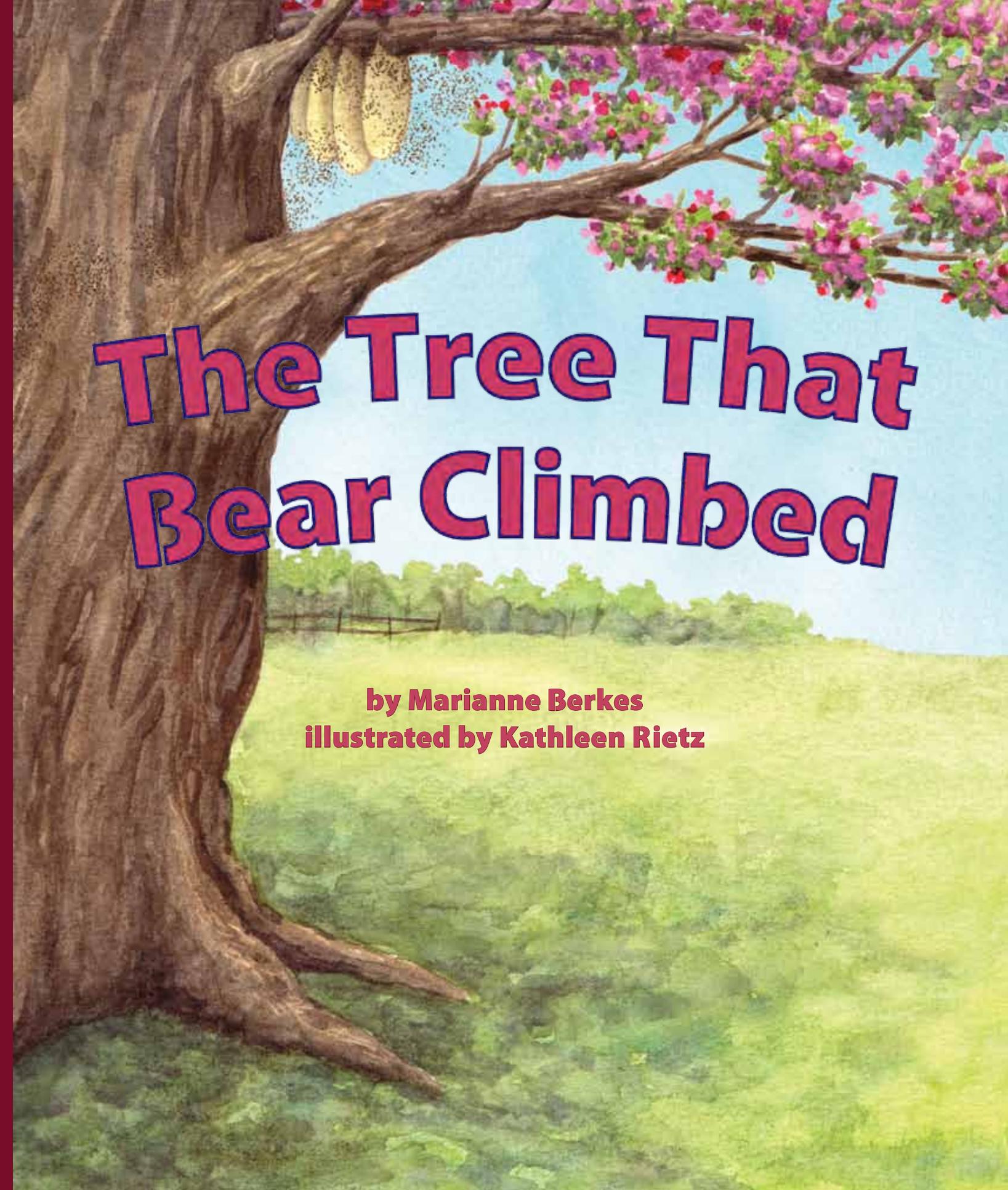
Marianne Berkes



Kathleen Rietz

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These are the roots that anchor the tree that bear climbed.



**This is the soil
that feeds the roots
that anchor the tree
that bear climbed.**



**This is the rain
that waters the soil
that feeds the roots
that anchor the tree
that bear climbed.**



**This is the trunk
that stands in the rain
that waters the soil
that feeds the roots
that anchor the tree
that bear climbed.**

For Creative Minds

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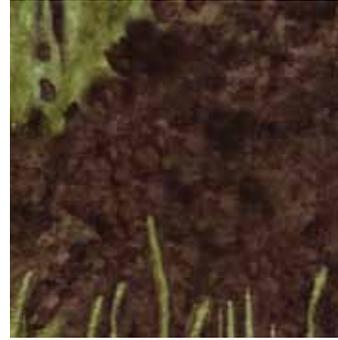
Basic Needs of Plants



sunlight and heat
(temperature and food)



rain (water)



soil (nutrients and space)



seed dispersal or pollination

All living things live in habitats that meet all of their basic needs. Animals need food, water, oxygen to breathe, and a safe space for shelter and for giving birth to their young. Plants have basic needs too:

Different types of plants need different **temperatures (heat)** and **light**. Both of these needs are met by the sun. Plants that grow near the poles or at high altitudes survive cold temperatures. Plants that grow in the tropics need hot temperatures.

All plants need **water**. Water comes from rain or snow (precipitation). Some plants, like those found in the rainforests, need a lot of water. Other plants, like those found in the desert, do not need very much water.

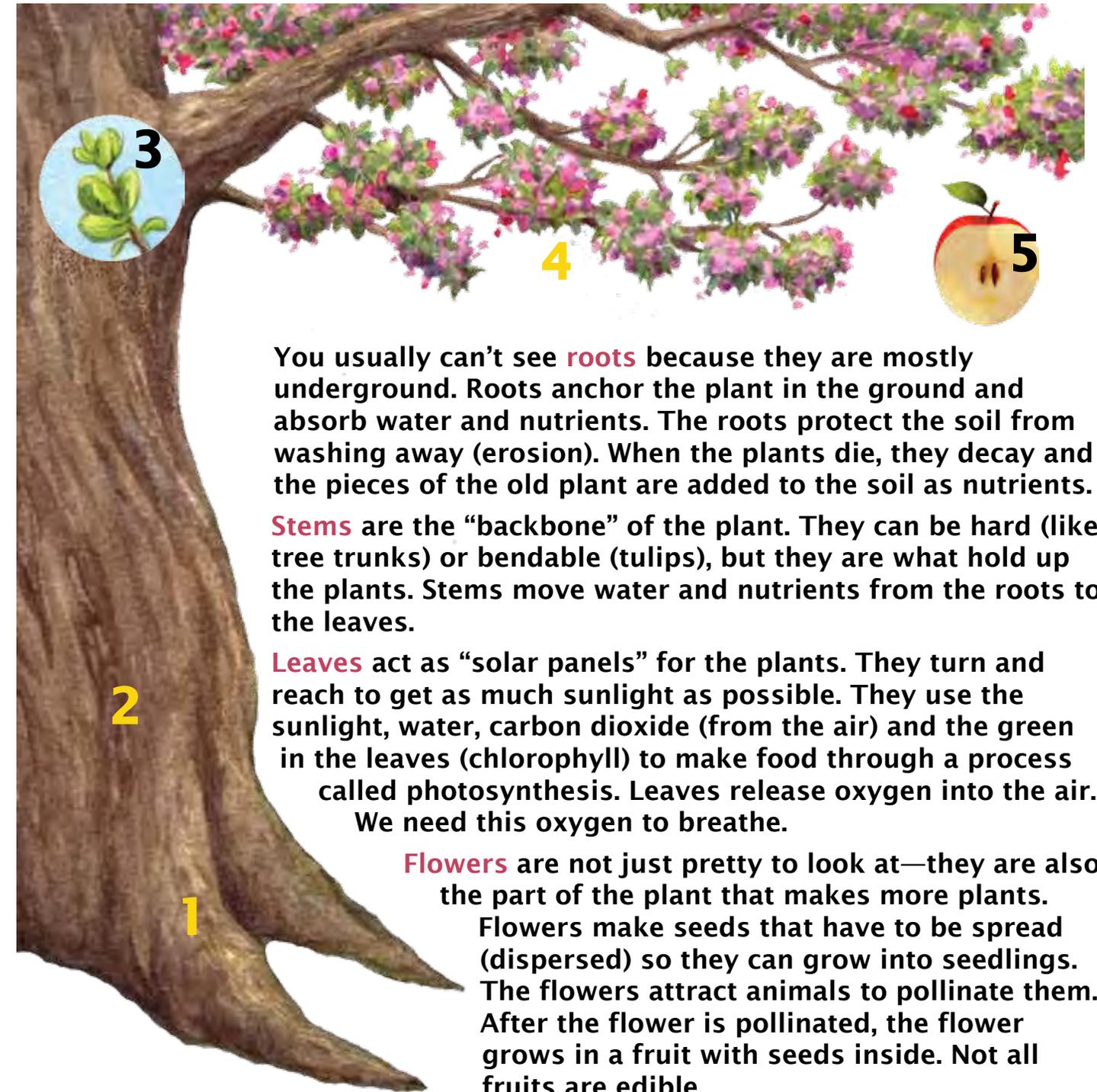
Soil is made of lots of small pieces of rocks (mineral), and decayed plants and animals (organic)—**nutrients** for the plants. Different plants need different kinds of soil. Some plants live better in sandy soil (beaches or deserts) and other plants need thick, rich soil (forests or grasslands).

Plants also need **room to grow**. Roots need to spread out and leaves need to be able to reach sunlight.

Many plant seeds disperse away from parent plants so they will have their own space to grow.

Plant Body Part Matching Activity

Match the plant body part to its description and what it does.



You usually can't see **roots** because they are mostly underground. Roots anchor the plant in the ground and absorb water and nutrients. The roots protect the soil from washing away (erosion). When the plants die, they decay and the pieces of the old plant are added to the soil as nutrients.

Stems are the “backbone” of the plant. They can be hard (like tree trunks) or bendable (tulips), but they are what hold up the plants. Stems move water and nutrients from the roots to the leaves.

Leaves act as “solar panels” for the plants. They turn and reach to get as much sunlight as possible. They use the sunlight, water, carbon dioxide (from the air) and the green in the leaves (chlorophyll) to make food through a process called photosynthesis. Leaves release oxygen into the air. We need this oxygen to breathe.

Flowers are not just pretty to look at—they are also the part of the plant that makes more plants.

Flowers make seeds that have to be spread (dispersed) so they can grow into seedlings. The flowers attract animals to pollinate them. After the flower is pollinated, the flower grows in a fruit with seeds inside. Not all fruits are edible.

Fruits are coverings that protect the seeds.

Answers: 1) roots; 2) trunk (stem); 3) leaves; 4) flowers; 5) fruit

How Plants and Animals Interact

All plants come from seeds. Plants need animals, wind, and water to disperse seeds away from the parent plant so the seed has its own space to grow into a new plant. Fruit-eating animals leave seeds behind when they go to the bathroom. Squirrels store nuts for the winter. Some of those nuts will be forgotten and will grow into new trees. Some seeds get stuck in animal fur and are carried to another location where they can grow. Wind and water carry some seeds away from parent plants too.

Plants don't have mouths as we do, but they do need food to grow. Green plants use carbon dioxide, sunlight, and water to make sugars. These sugars are the food that help the plants grow. This process (photosynthesis) makes the oxygen that we and other animals breathe.

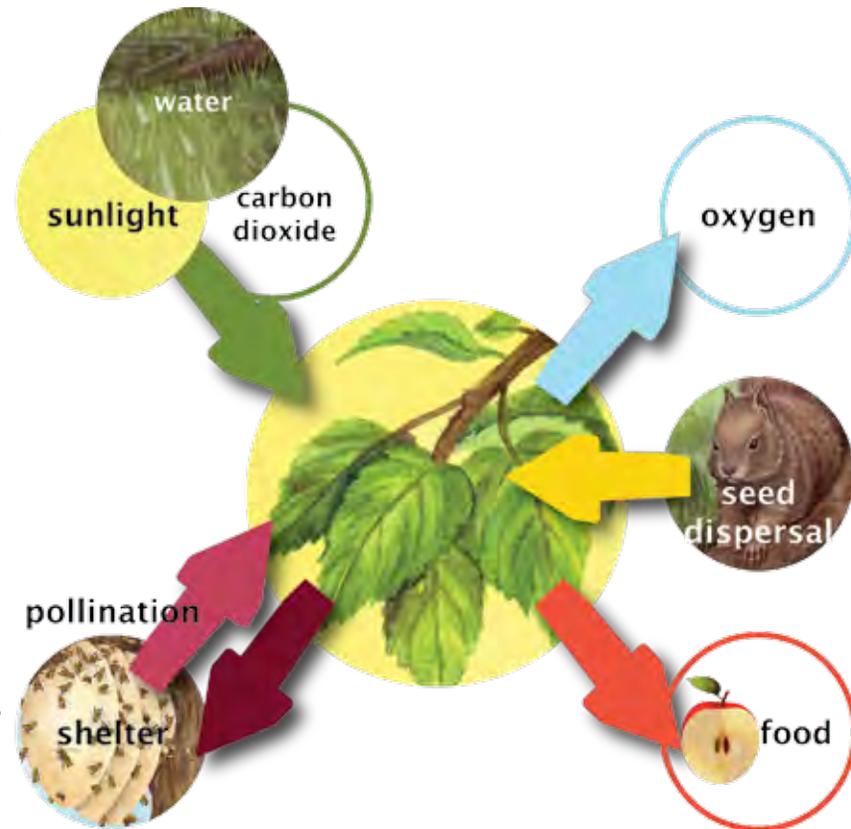
Plants use sunlight and water to make their own food through photosynthesis. They are the bottom or the beginning of the food web in any habitat. Herbivores are animals that only eat plants. Carnivores eat other animals. But carnivores still rely on plants to have fed the animals they eat, earlier in its food chain.

Many animals use plants for shelter. Birds build nests out of plant materials, often in a tree or other type of plant. Bees build their hives in plants and need the pollen from flowers to make honey.

Many plants rely on animals for pollination. Animals move pollen within a single plant as they eat or from one plant to another as they travel from plant to plant.

The flowers attract the animals with their bright colors, their scents, or both. Bees, bats, butterflies, moths, and beetles are all animals that help pollinate different plants.

Humans use plants, too! We use plants for food, houses, clothing (cotton and linen), and even medicines.



Hands On: Plant Experiments

We eat all kinds of fruits. In fact, many of the plants we think of as vegetables are actually fruit because they are the covering for seeds. Scientifically, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, and squash are all fruits not vegetables. For the next week, look for the seeds in the fruits (and vegetables) you eat. Do you eat the seed(s) or do you cut the seeds out and throw them away?

Plants help keep soil in place. Take a cup of water and pour it on the ground outside in a place where there are many plants, like grass. Next, take another cup of water and pour it on the ground outside in a place where there are no plants, like in a sandbox. What happens to the ground when the water flows over it? How do you think plants help keep soil in place?



How do stems carry water? In a small cup, combine water with a little food coloring. Cut a piece of celery and place it upright in the water. How long does it take the colored water to get to the top of the celery? Cut the celery in half to see the xylem tubes that carry the water.



If you have potted plants in your house, you probably already know that you need to water them. After all, water is a basic need of plants (and animals). What would happen to a plant if you didn't water it? Take some seedlings (you can plant your own in paper cups or, depending on the time of year, you can buy some inexpensive seedlings already in containers) and experiment with what might happen if a plant's basic needs are not met. Some variables include:

- Plant seeds in different types of soil (sand, gravel, top soil, clay, etc.).
- Change the temperature (cold, cool, warm, hot).
- Change the amount of and/or the length of light (bright light, low light).
- Change the amount of water.
- Plant seeds in different sizes of containers (space).



For Trish Purdham and June Parrilli, media specialists extraordinaire! Love, M.B.

For Leon—KR

Thanks to Lisa Davis, Associate Director of Education at the Denver Botanic Gardens, for reviewing the accuracy of the information in this book.

Berkes, Marianne Collins.

The tree that bear climbed / by Marianne Berkes ; illustrated by Kathleen Rietz.
p. cm.

Summary: Through rhyming text reminiscent of "The House that Jack Built," tells of a tree, from the roots that anchor it in the soil to the bear who climbs its trunk to snack on honey from a beehive high in its branches. Includes facts about plants.

ISBN 978-1-60718-528-4 (hardcover) -- ISBN 978-1-60718-537-6 (pbk.) -- ISBN 978-1-60718-546-8 (english ebook) -- ISBN 978-1-60718-555-0 (spanish ebook) [1. Stories in rhyme. 2. Trees--Fiction. 3. Bears--Fiction.] I. Rietz, Kathleen, ill. II. Title.
PZ8.3.B4557Tre 2012
[E]--dc23

2012003745

Also available as eBooks featuring auto-flip, auto-read, 3D-page-curling, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio ISBN: 978-1-60718-565-9

Hardcover Spanish translation—El árbol que trepó el oso—ISBN: 978-1-60718-679-3

Interest level: 003-008; Grade level: P-3; Lexile Level: 450L

Curriculum keywords: plant adaptations and parts, basic needs, photosynthesis, plants, repeated lines, rhythm or rhyme, sun light/heat

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