Plant Adventures Unit Study Guide

1. Seeds travel away from their parent plants because they are more likely to get sunlight without competing with other plants around them for the things they need.
2. A cactus is a desert plant that needs little water and plenty of sunlight. A cactus cannot live in a different habitat because each plant has different needs. You can only grow one in your home if you copy a desert habitat, watering it once or less a month and growing it in direct sunlight. A cactus stores water in its stem to use when it needs it. A cactus that is overwatered will burst open!
3. All plants need sunlight (but in different amounts) to survive because this is how they make their food through their leaves.
4. All plants need water (but in different amounts) to survive because this is how it gets its minerals/nutrients. Never water your plant with bottled water because most bottled water is filtered with the nutrients removed!
5. Venus flytraps eat bugs because their habitat’s soil doesn’t have many minerals/nutrients. These kinds of carnivorous plants eat animals like insects to get minerals/nutrients they need.
6. Examples of seeds that travel by wind: maple tree seed, dandelion seed, vine seeds
7. Examples of seeds that travel by water: coconut, sea bean
8. Examples of seeds that travel by animals: cherry seed, apple seed, koa tree seed (all fruit seeds)
9. Wind blows light, feathery or papery leaves to other places.
10. Water allows seeds that float and have an extra protective layer (from sea salt) to travel to other places, like beaches.
11. Animals help plants travel by carrying the seeds to other places. Animals may eat the fruit and leave its seed behind in a new place.
12. Trees grow many leaves to collect more sunlight for the plant. Leaves move and follow the sun throughout the day to capture maximum amounts of sunlight. The sun moves across the sky, so the plant will follow. A plant in a dark box will grow faster to find the sun yet eventually die. A plant in a dark box with a hole cut out will find the hole and grow through it to find the sun.