



FLOWERING PLANTS

The body of a flowering plant is divided into two parts. They are the root and the shoot. The root grows in the ground and the shoot grows above it in the air or along the ground.

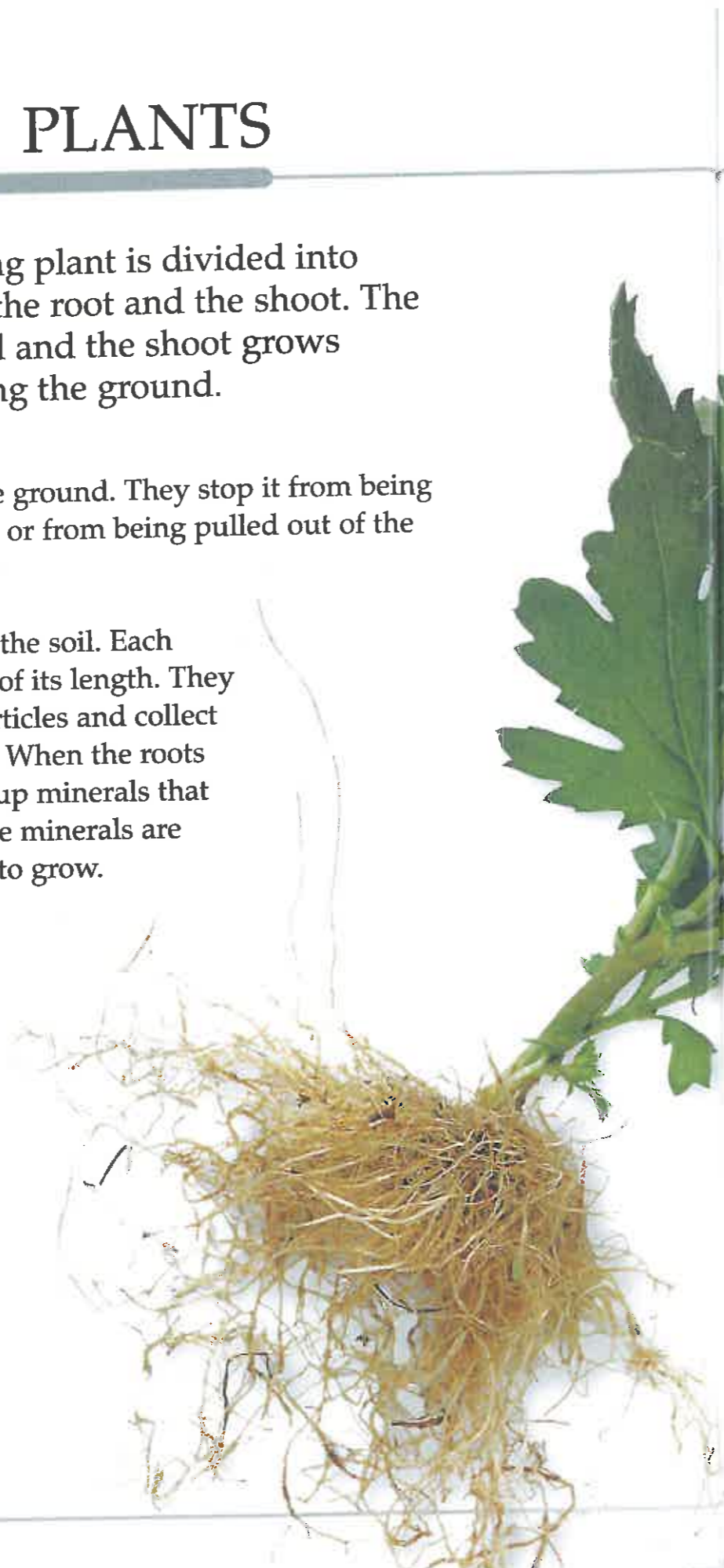
ROOTS

The roots hold the plant in the ground. They stop it from being blown away by a strong wind or from being pulled out of the soil by an animal.

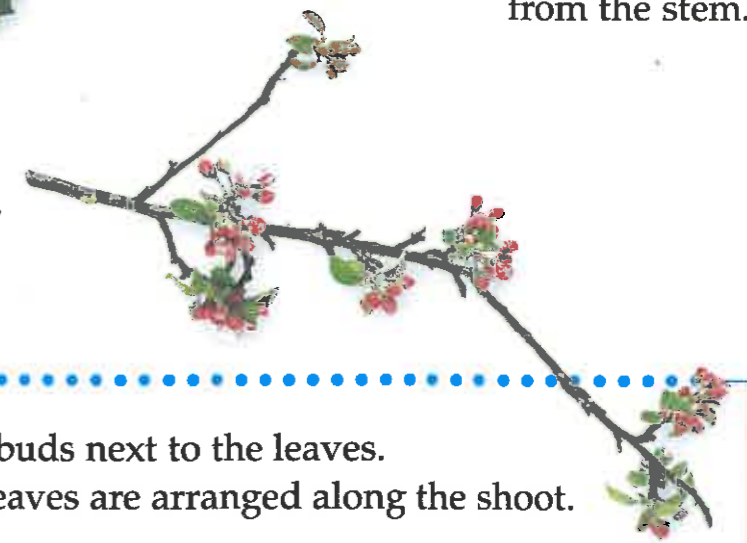
The root takes up water from the soil. Each root has tiny hairs along part of its length. They grow out between the soil particles and collect water covering their surfaces. When the roots take up water, they also take up minerals that are dissolved in the water. The minerals are chemicals that help the plant to grow.



This tree is held in the bank by its strong roots.



This branch of an apple tree grew from a bud. Further side shoots are growing out of the branch.



THE SHOOT

The shoot is made up of a stem, leaves, buds and flowers. There is a large bud at the tip of the shoot and smaller buds down its sides. The shoot increases its length when the bud at the tip bursts open.

A stem with leaves and one or more flowers grows out of the bud.

When the side buds burst open, they form side shoots with leaves and flowers. A side bud grows just above the place where a leaf sprouts from the stem.

INVESTIGATE!

Look at a shoot and find the buds next to the leaves. Examine the way buds and leaves are arranged along the shoot.