

Plant Structure & Function



Plant Structure

- Root System
- Shoot System
 - Stem
 - Leaves
 - Flowers



Root System

Function

- Anchors
- Absorption
- Transportation
- Storage

Structure

- Xylem
 - Water & minerals from roots to leaves
- Phloem
 - Sugars from leaves to roots

Root Types

- Taproots
- Fibrous Roots
- Adventitious



Shoot System - Stems

Function

- Supports leaves
- Grows toward light
- Transports substances between roots and leaves

Structure

- Herbaceous
 - Soft and green
 - Do not survive winter
- Woody
 - Increases in size due to vascular cambium
 - Survives winter

Shoot System - Stems

Herbaceous Stem



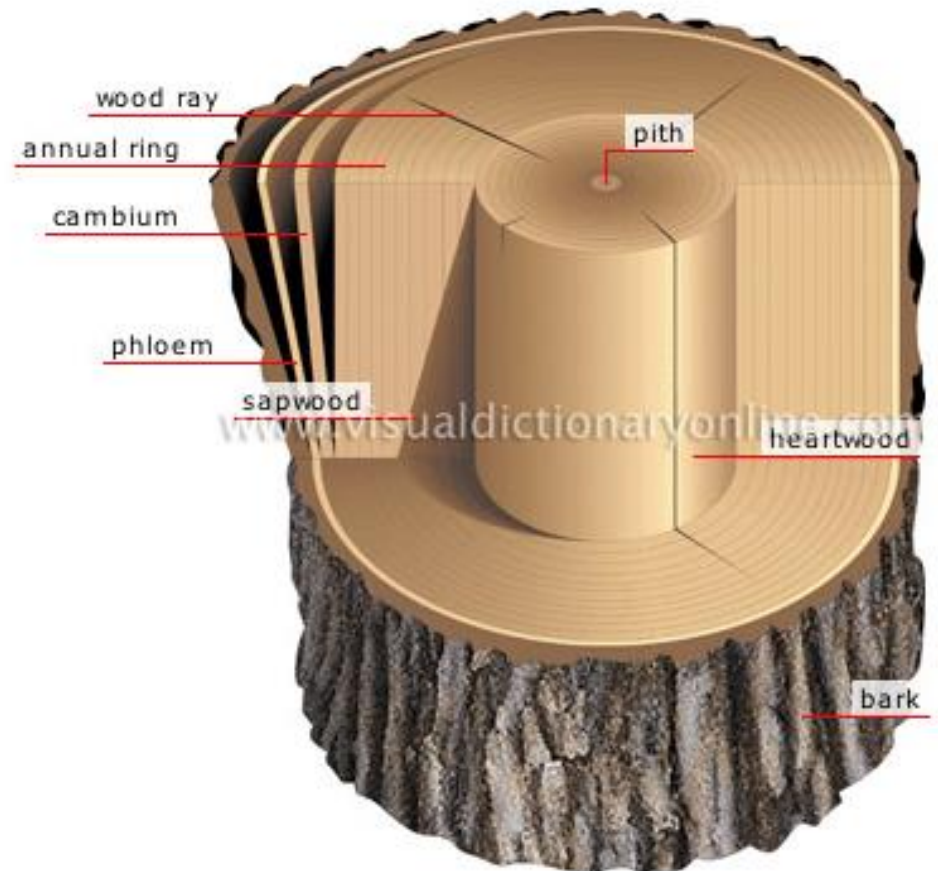
Woody Stem



Woody Stems

Key terms to know:

- Vascular Cambium
- Sapwood
- Heartwood
- Cork/Bark
- Resin/oil



Shoot System - Leaves

Function

- Photosynthesis
 - Uses carbon dioxide
 - Produces oxygen and glucose

Structure

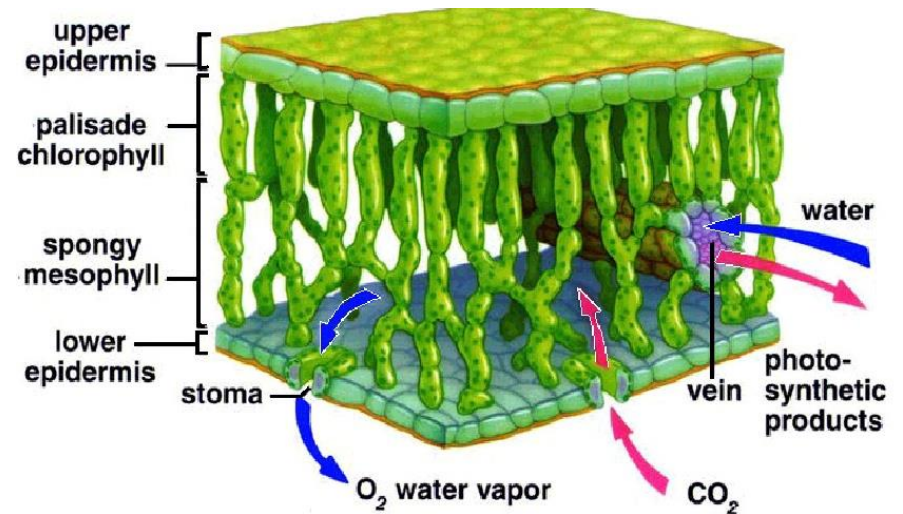
- Designed to capture maximum light and minimize water loss



Shoot System - Leaves

Key terms to know:

- Cuticle
- Epidermis
- Palisade layer
- Spongy mesophyll
- Veins (xylem & phloem)
- Stoma & guard cells
- Chlorophyll (plastids)
- Turgor pressure



Angiosperms

- Known as the flowering plants
- Divided into two types
 - Monocotyledons (monocots)
 - Dicotyledons (dicots)



Monocots vs. Dicots

Monocots



One
cotyledon

Embryos



Veins
usually
parallel

Leaf
venation



Vascular bundles
usually complexly
arranged

Stems



Fibrous
root
system

Roots



Floral parts
usually in
multiples of
three

Flowers

Dicots



Two
cotyledons



Veins
usually
netlike



Vascular bundles
usually arranged
in ring



Taproot
usually
present



Floral parts
usually in
multiples of
four or five