

**What plants  
need to grow**



**We need to eat food  
and drink water to  
grow.**



Plants need water too, just like us. But plants don't eat anything. They make their own food.

?

So why do plants need fertiliser?



Fertilisers have nutrients in them.  
Plants use the nutrients to *help* them  
make their food.

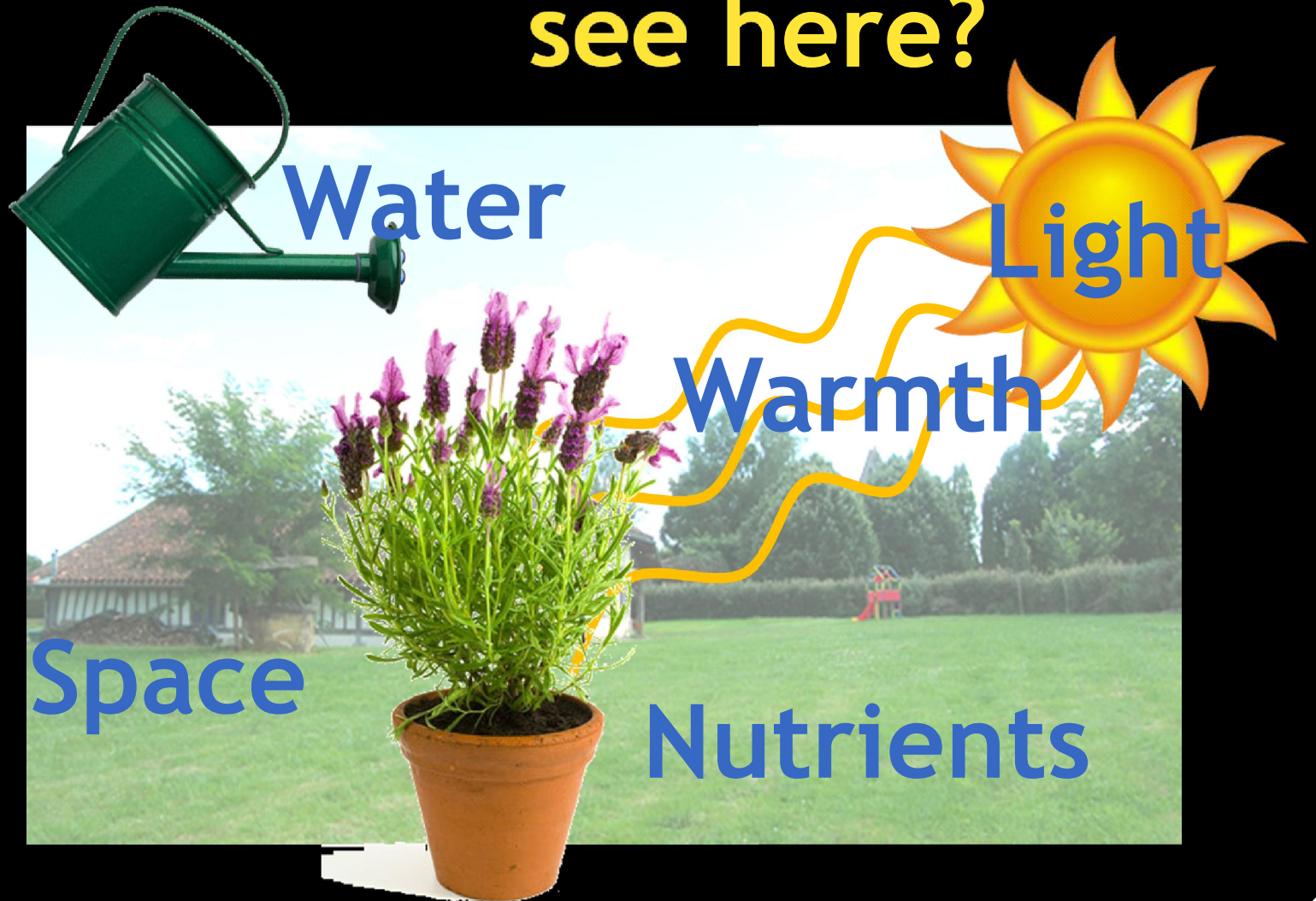
Some of our parents,  
or maybe some of us,  
take supplements  
(extras) too, like  
vitamin tablets or cod  
liver oil.



**Let's look at the  
things plants need in  
order to grow  
properly.**



# What can you see here?



**So, can you remember  
what is it plants need in  
order to grow properly?**

**Now let's find out why  
they need those things.**

# Light

Plants use light to make their own food. When plants make their food, this is called *photosynthesis*.

Photo means *light*.

Synthesis means *making*.

So, plants *make* food by using *light*.



# Warmth

Plants will die if the temperature is too low (if it's too cold).

Think about what happens to plants and trees in the winter season.



# Nutrients

Plants use nutrients to *help* them make their food. Fertiliser contains a lot of nutrients.

Different nutrients help the plant in different ways. Some help the roots grow. Some help the flowers grow.



# Water

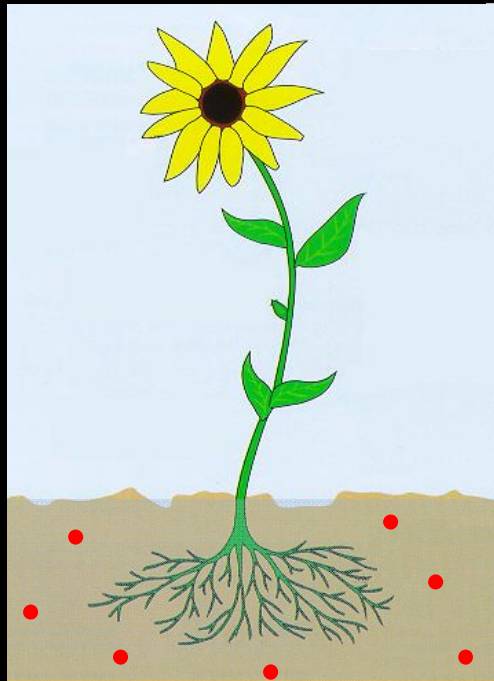


Plants need water for  
*photosynthesis.*

Who can remember what  
*photosynthesis* is?

# Water

The water also dissolves the nutrients so that they can be taken into the plant by the roots.



# Space

Plants need space so that they have enough room to grow.  
Can you think of examples of times when you were in a crowded place?



How did you feel?



**OK, can you list the 5 things  
plants need to grow?**

•Light

•Warmth

•Water

•Space

•Nutrients