

Carrot Anatomy

Explore the Inside of a Plant Root

Look closely, color what you see, and discover how carrots grow and help plants move water and food.

GREENS

The leafy tops that grow above the soil.

CROWN

The top of the carrot where the greens attach. If this part is exposed to sunlight, it may turn green.

BODY (TAPROOT)

The main part we eat! This is the carrot root that grows underground.

ROOT TIP

The very end of the root. It helps the carrot grow and absorb water.



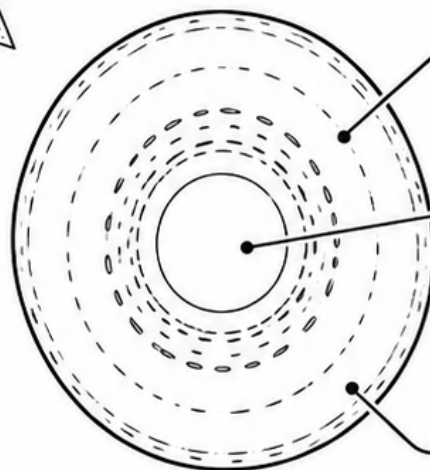
STEM FUN FACT

When part of a carrot is exposed to sunlight, it may turn green! The green color comes from chlorophyll—the same pigment that helps leaves make food. Green areas are usually not a problem, though they can sometimes taste a little bitter.



CROSS SECTION VIEW

When you slice a carrot across, you get a peek inside!



VASCULAR TISSUE

The plant's transportation system. It includes xylem and phloem.

Color the ring area.

XYLEM

Carries water and dissolved minerals through the plant. Usually found more toward the center.

Color this area.

PHLOEM

Transports sugars (food) made by the plant to other parts.

Usually found more toward the outside of the vascular tissue.

Color this area.



You might also notice tiny dots or lines in your carrot slice. These are part of the plant's vascular structures that help move water, minerals, and sugars throughout the plant.

Color and observe what you see!

OBSERVE & THINK



What colors do you see?



What patterns or shapes do you notice?



What questions do you have?



What do you wonder about how carrots grow and help plants?



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Observe. Experiment. Adjust. ♥