



Highly Commended

Science Writing

Year R-2

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Hillcrest Primary School



HOW PLANTS COMMUNICATE

TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY!

WITH OTHER PLANTS



ANIMAL COMMUNICATION



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Nature's Secret Language

Introduction

Communication is how living things pass information to each other. Plants and animals communicate to survive and interact with their environment.

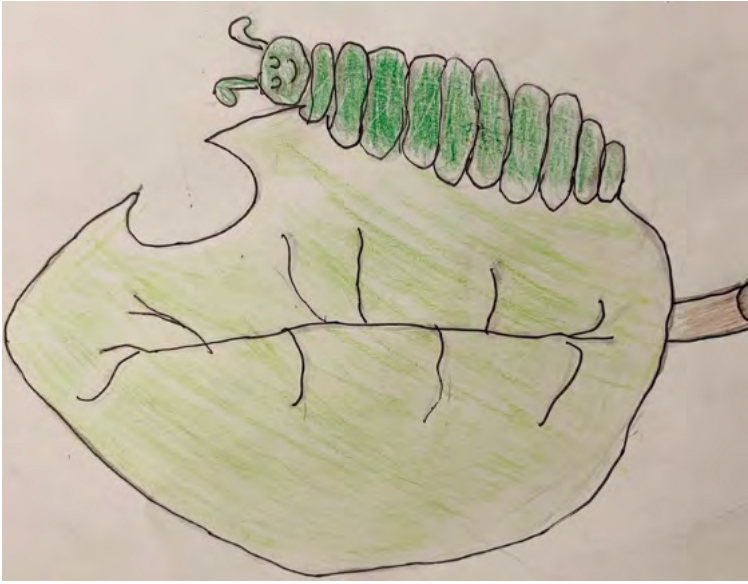
(a)Plant Communication

Plant communication means plants share information with each other and with other organisms in their environment. They can do this by using smells (chemicals), touch (movement) and tiny electric signals.

Plant Chemical Communication

Plants can send out a message by using sweet smells. This is called plant chemical communication. They use smells, which can help to find food, defend against predators, or track down a mate. For example, a plants release chemicals known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to communicate.

Examples of Plant Chemical Communication (Table 1: Created by me)

No.	My Drawings	Description
1		When a caterpillar bites, the leaves of plants emit a foul odour to warn other plants and attract helpful bugs to chase the caterpillar away.

No.	My Drawings	Description
2	 A pencil drawing of a bee on a flower. The bee is positioned on the center of the flower, facing forward. It has a round body with a striped pattern, four legs, and two antennae. The flower has several large, rounded petals and a central area with small dots. A single leaf is visible at the bottom left of the stem.	Plants send out a nice smell to tell bees to come and move pollen and help with pollination.
	 A photograph showing a pair of hands holding several small, round cherry tomatoes. The tomatoes are in various stages of ripeness, with some being bright red and others a mix of red and orange. Green stems and leaves are visible in the background.	Tomato plants release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to defend and communicate with their surroundings.

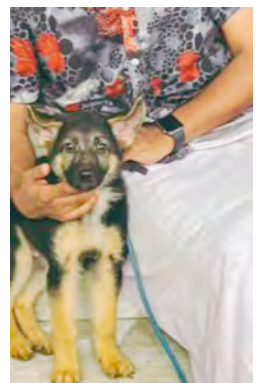
No.	My Drawings	Description
3	   Carnivorous Plants	Venus Fly Trap: They attract insects using jasmonic acid. Pitcher Plant: Uses nectar sugar to attract its prey. Sundew plant: The sundew plants have digestive enzymes, which are like scissors that put mushy liquid on the bug.
4		Plants use a little fungi (Mycorrhizae) on the roots to send messages and share food with other plants around.

(b) Animal communication

Animal communication is how animals share messages with others. These include visual signals, auditory sounds, chemical signals, touch interactions and electrical signals. Animals use communication for social integration, predator avoidance, parent care, and defending others.

Animal auditory communication

Sounds are important for animal communication, from simple calls to complex songs. Communication using sound is called auditory signal communication.



My uncle with his puppy. When I told the dog to pose for the photo, this was the pose.

Examples of auditory signals of animals (Table 2: Created by me)

No.	My Drawings	Description
1		Bird songs attract mates and mark territory.
2		Whale songs are complex sounds used for long-distance communication.

No.	My Drawings	Description
3		Many animals, like the vervet monkey, have specific calls to warn of predators.

Conclusion

Plants and animals are excellent at communicating, like me. You must plant a seed today. I have a pet fish who always communicates with me when I see him first in the morning and after school.

Word count: 189 words (excluding title, subheadings and tables)

Acknowledgement

Thank you, my sister, for helping to teach me how to research, edit, create tables and print photos. Also, thank you for helping me add my drawings and photos to my science writing. Thank you to my uncle, who gave me a picture of him communicating with the dog.

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MY PHOTOBOOK

