



Taking Cuttings

Taking cuttings from a plant is an artificial method of asexual reproduction. If you are successful, you will make new plants that are genetically identical to the parent plant! Cuttings are small pieces of stem that are carefully removed from the parent plant and encouraged to form their own roots, making new plants.

Follow these instructions to take cuttings from a geranium plant:



1. Cut a side stem that is about 5 cm to 10 cm long off the main stem of the parent plant. You should cut the side stem just below a leaf joint.



2. Carefully cut off all the leaves except the very top ones.



3. Put each cutting in a beaker or jar of water.



4. Place the beaker or jar in a bright place, but not in direct sunlight.



5. Watch your cuttings for a few weeks. If you are successful, your cuttings will develop roots!



6. You can then plant each cutting in a pot of compost. You will have created your own cloned plants!



Draw a picture or stick a photo of your cuttings in the box.



Explain how each cutting could make a new plant. Refer to asexual reproduction and the fact that each plant will be identical to the parent plant.

Use this space to draw a picture or stick a photo of any of your cuttings that develop roots.

