

3.29 Life cycle of a coconut

Topic: Plants
Subtopic: Life cycles
Activity type/skill: Cloze
Literacy focus: Listening
Genre: Information reports

Objective

- Listen to an extended text and record and remember details.
- Follow simple instructions.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)
- [Audio track 3.29](#)

What to do

1. Explain that students will hear a talk by a Samoan student about the life cycle of a coconut. Discuss coconuts, and if possible, examine a real one.
2. Play track 3.29 (Track 11 for this topic) and have students listen as they look at the first page of the student worksheet.
3. Look at the second page of the student worksheet and have students listen again and work in pairs to fill in the missing words in the top section – it is a different text on the same subject.
4. Look at the bottom section of the student worksheet and explain that they need to prepare to be asked the questions in the boxes.
5. Play the track again and encourage them to take notes or draw pictures as they listen to prompt their memory later.
6. Get one student to choose a question and then choose a person in the group to answer it.
7. Give feedback on the amount and accuracy of information remembered and new vocabulary used accurately.

Answers:

seed
sea
soil
leaves
roots
soft
plant
branches
flowers
pollinated
ten
ripe

A  **Coconut Trees** 



A coconut falls to the ground.



Soon it is covered by soil, it grows a shoot and roots.



Nuts grow from the flowers on the coconut tree.



It grows into a tall tree.



The tree produces flowers.

B

The life cycle of a coconut.

A coconut drops from a coconut palm. A coconut is the _____ of a coconut palm. It is a very large seed! This coconut falls on the ground but sometimes coconuts fall into the _____ and are carried a long way from the tree they fell from.



The coconut is soon covered by _____ and _____. When the conditions are right the coconut grows a shoot and some _____. The shoot grows out of a _____ part in the hard skin of the coconut.



Slowly the young _____ grows into a small tree. It has a thin trunk. It has no _____ and long thin leaves.

Soon the coconut tree produces _____. They are a creamy colour. These flowers are _____ by bees and become new coconuts.

The nuts grow and in about _____ months they are large and _____ and ready to drop from the tree.

C

Tell me one thing about the coconut seed.

What happens when a coconut starts to grow?

What is a young tree like?

Describe the flowers on a coconut tree.

Tell me something about the growing nuts.

Tell me all you can about one part of the coconut's lifecycle.