Keep or Skip

Research question: How do roots help a plant get water?

C.4.6 "Summarize relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from various print and digital sources; take notes, categorize information and provide a list of sources."

NAME _____ DATE _____

USEFUL NOTE

A useful note helps answer your research question. You could use it when you write your answer.

For the question "What do owls eat?" a useful note is "Owls eat mice."

OFF-TOPIC NOTE

An off-topic note may be true, but it does not help answer your research question.

For the question "What do owls eat?" an off-topic note is "Owls have feathers."

1 SORT

8 items

Circle USE or SKIP for each note, then choose one note from each group and explain how you knew where it belonged.

1.	Roots take in water from the soil.	USE SKIP
2.	Tiny root hairs absorb water.	USE SKIP
3.	Many flowers develop into fruit after pollination.	USE SKIP
4.	Water moves from roots into a plant's stem.	USE SKIP
5.	Leaves use sunlight to make food.	USE SKIP
6.	Seeds can grow into new plants.	USE SKIP
7.	Roots spread through soil and reach more water.	USE SKIP
8.	Long roots can reach water deeper in the soil.	USE SKIP

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new note to USE and one new note to SKIP for the research question; do not repeat a note above.

USE _____

SKIP _____

CHALLENGE

Use one USE note to write a one-sentence answer to the research question, then name a print or digital source you could check for that fact.

ANSWER KEY

Keep or Skip

GRADE 4 · C.4.6

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Roots take in water from the soil.	**USE**	It directly explains how roots get water for a plant.
2	Tiny root hairs absorb water.	**USE**	It names a part of the root that takes in water.
3	Many flowers develop into fruit after pollination.	**SKIP**	It is about flowers and fruit, not how roots get water.
4	Water moves from roots into a plant's stem.	**USE**	It explains where water goes after roots take it in.
5	Leaves use sunlight to make food.	**SKIP**	It is about how leaves make food, not how roots get water.
6	Seeds can grow into new plants.	**SKIP**	It is about seeds, not how roots get water.
7	Roots spread through soil and reach more water.	**USE**	It explains how spreading roots help a plant reach water.
8	Long roots can reach water deeper in the soil.	**USE**	It explains how root length can help a plant reach water.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **USE**: Roots can absorb water after rain soaks the soil.
- **SKIP**: A sunflower can grow tall.

Challenge: Roots absorb water from the soil to help the plant get water. Source to check: Encyclopaedia Britannica, “Root.”

For Part 2, a student might explain that item 2 is USE because root hairs absorb water, while item 5 is SKIP because it describes what leaves do with sunlight. Accept other explanations that connect each note to the research question.