

Ecosystems

2. Plant reproduction

CONCEPT 3

SEED DISPERSAL

NOTES

For a species to thrive in an environment, competition between individuals for resources such as light, water and space needs to be reduced. Therefore, after a plant has produced its **seeds**, it is important that these **seeds** are dispersed over an area that allows new plants to avoid competition with the original parent plant and other new **seeds**.

There are many interesting examples of how plants are adapted to achieve successful dispersal of their **seeds**. These include dispersal by wind, water, exploding pods, in animal faeces or by hooking onto animal fur.

How Seeds Travel

by the wind



milkweed



dandelion



maple

by animals



beggar-ticks



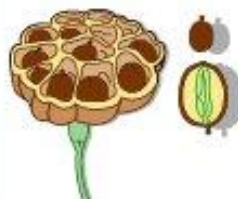
sandbur



blackberry

by water

lotus



cattail



coconut

by bursting

violet



jewelweed



witch hazel

by humans



bean



wheat



cherry