

Pho-to-syn-the-sis

▶ Photosynthesis is one of the most amazing chemical reactions on Earth. A plant uses energy from sunlight to drive a reaction between water and carbon dioxide, to make more of itself—more plant. The plant produces a substance called glucose, which is the food fuel for living things—the plant itself, and for us animals, who eat plants. Photosynthesizing plants also produce waste products, mainly oxygen. From this chemical reaction, nature can build bright green blades of grass, undersea forests of kelp plants dozens of meters (hundreds of feet) long, and towering 100-meter (330-foot) tall redwood trees that live for over 1,000 years.



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