

the rest of the plant?" "It keeps it in the ground." "Yes; but it does something else for the little plant. What must we do to be strong, healthy children?" "Eat lots of bread and butter." "Yes, that is right, Hattie; and lots of other things, too. Do you think the little plant eats bread and butter to make it grow? No; it gets its food from the earth, and it has not only one little mouth like each of you, but many little mouths with which it sucks in its food. Now, where do you think these mouths are? Yes, at the end of each little root. Now, you see of what use it is. Do you think the stem helps to feed the plant in any way? Yes, it does; because through it the food is carried to the leaves and flower, so that they can grow strong and beautiful. The leaves help in another way, taking in the air, also light from the sun. We've learned a great deal about our little plant to-day. We found that it had root, stem, leaves and flower, and we also saw how each helped to keep the plant alive."

TUESDAY.

"Here we are ready for another talk about our plant. Do you remember me telling you yesterday how the root helped to feed the little plant? Yes, it takes in food from the dark earth and sends it up through the stem to the leaves. Now, I am going to tell you about some other roots that take in more food than they need to make the little plant grow. This they pack away until the root becomes quite big. Then they keep it until the next summer, when they give it to the little new plant until it is able to take food from the earth. Some of these roots are so nice that we eat them." Carrots." "Parsnips." "Yes, those are good." "Potatoes," cries one little voice. "No, Alice, dear, not potatoes; some other day we will talk of them."

"Now, who can tell me another part of the plant?" "Stem." "Would you like to hear something of stems to-day? Well, do you remember what they are for?" "For the leaves to grow on." "Yes, and for the flowers, too. How do they help the little plant to grow? Yes; they carry up the food from the root to the leaves. In the inside of the stem are a lot of little tubes, and through these the food is carried. Are the stems of all plants like this one? (holding up a geranium). Well; how does this stem grow?" "Straight up." "Yes; then we call this an *upright stem*. How many children have peas growing in their gardens? Have they upright stems? No; they have little green fingers called tendrils, and they climb by laying hold of other objects for support. Then we call them *climbing stems*. There is another stem which has no fingers at all, but twines around anything that may be near it. This is a

twining stem, and I wonder who saw a twining stem?" "We have a bean in our garden, and it twines around a string." "Yes; and did you ever hear of a stem growing under the ground?" "Roots grow under the ground." "Yes, but stems do, too. The rose-bush and the raspberry-bush each have stems growing in that way. And some of these underground stems have food stored away in them. Do you know of any? Do you remember a vegetable we spoke of when studying roots? I told you we would talk of it again. Yes, a potato; well, that is an underground stem, made thick because of food stored in it. Now, can you think of any stems *above ground* that we eat? What does mamma buy long sticks of which to make pies? Yes, rhubarb; then that is a stem, as also celery, asparagus. Now, will you try and remember what stems we have as food?"

WEDNESDAY.

"To-day, children, we will look at the leaves. Of what use are they to the little plant? They give it air and they breathe for it. What do we breathe through?" "Our mouths." "Yes, and the leaves have ever so many little mouths. (At this point bring in experiment showing leaves breathing. Putting them in water and covering tightly so as to keep out the air). Willie, if you bring me that calla lily I shall tell you something about it. Look at this big green leaf; do you see little lines running through it? These are called veins; now you may show it to the rest of the children. Do you all see the little veins running along side by side? I wonder who can tell me how they are running?" "Parallel," says Ralph. "Yes, Ralph; you may go the board and show the children how the little veins are in the leaf. Then we say that this is a parallel-veined leaf. Now, I have another leaf (showing maple leaf), and I want you all to look at it. Are these veins all running parallel? No. Well, Mary, you may go to the board and show us how they are. Yes, they are all crossing one another; then we call this leaf a netted-veined one. Now, will you try and remember these two names, and see how many leaves of each you can find? (Form is best studied in September, because of falling leaves). And now, what part of our plant have we not examined? Yes, the flower, and I have brought you a very pretty one (showing a wild rose). Can you tell me why you think it is so pretty?" "The color." "Yes; it has a very beautiful pink dress. And do you know what its dress is called? What does it look like?" "A little cup," suggests Eddie. "Yes, now I am going to let you all see it more closely. Annie may take it around and let you all see it. How many saw the little pink