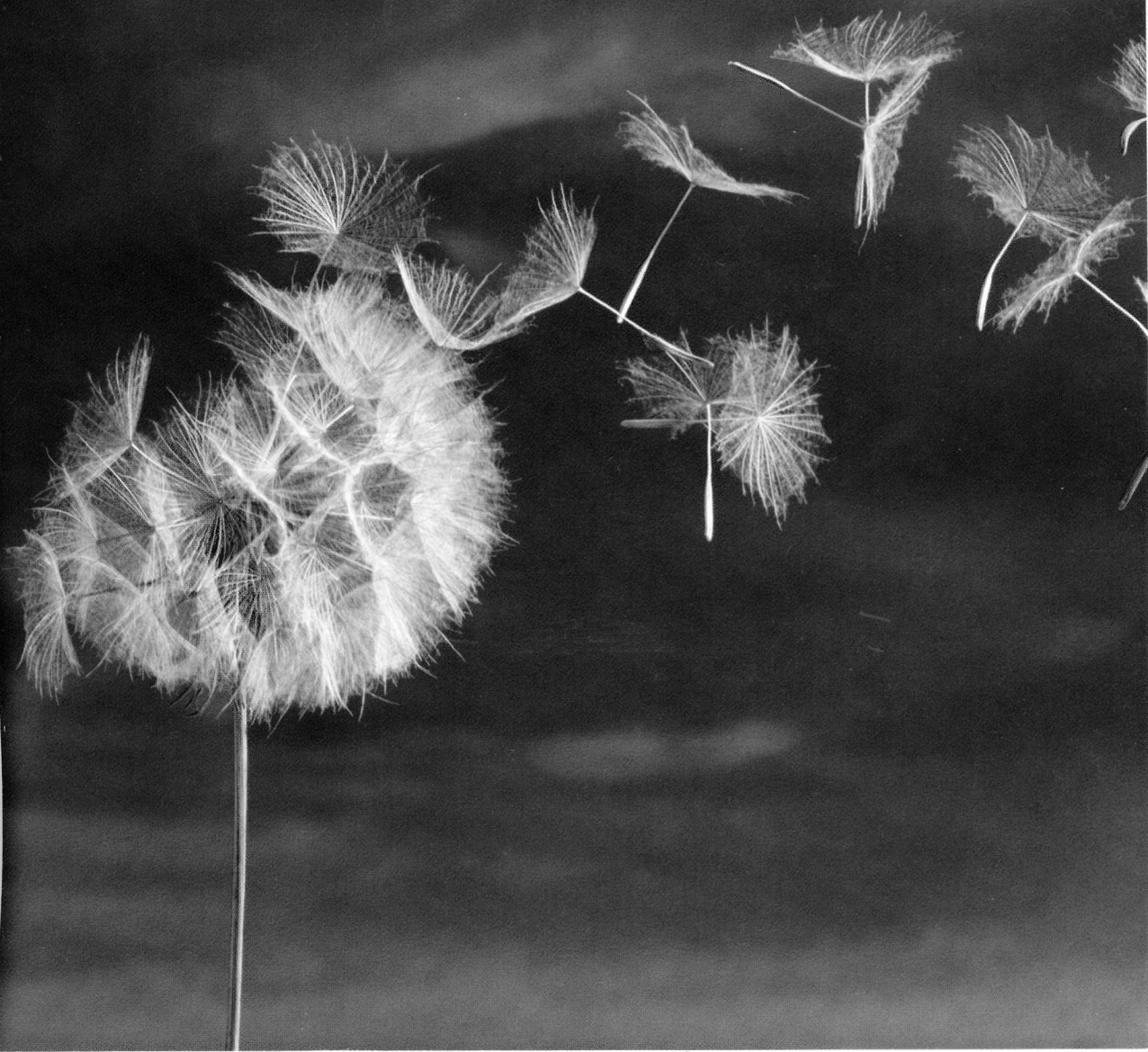


# How Do Seeds Travel?

by Rosalie Koskenmaki



- 1 Many plants have roots, leaves, and flowers. They have seeds too.  
New plants grow from seeds.
- 2 Some seeds fall on the ground. New plants grow next to old plants.  
When plants grow this way, they are crowded and some die. Other  
plants spread their seeds around. These seeds grow in new places.
- 3 Some plant seeds have little wings. When the wind blows, they glide  
away. Soon they fall to the ground. New plants grow there.
- 4 Some plants dry up. The wind pulls them from the ground, but they  
are too big to fly. They tumble along the ground, dropping their seeds.
- 5 *Pop!* Some plants throw their seeds. When these plants are full of  
seeds, they break open. The seeds pop out.
- 6 Other plants grow near water. Their seeds drop into the water.  
They float away. They might travel many miles before they stop.
- 7 Stickers on some seeds help them to travel far. These seeds stick  
onto an animal's fur when it walks by. These seeds get a free ride.  
Sometimes it's a long one.
- 8 Birds carry some plant seeds to new places too.
- 9 Wind, water, and animals help spread seeds around. Some seeds  
end up many miles away from where they started.
- 10 Seeds can't walk or run. But they *can* travel!

## COMPREHENSION

**A** Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1** Another good name for this story is
  - a** Running, Walking, and Swimming.
  - b** Flying, Floating, and Falling.
- 2** Seeds grow into plants like
  - a** flowers grow bigger and brighter.
  - b** children grow into adults.
- 3** Animals and birds help seeds as
  - a** a bus helps people.
  - b** fur helps animals.

**4** Seeds carried by a river will most likely

- a** grow along the side of the road.
- b** grow along the river's bank.

**5** If seeds had no help from wind, water, or animals,

- a** they would most likely learn to travel on their own.
- b** there would most likely be fewer new plants.

## LEARN ABOUT WORDS

**B** Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- 1** plant parts that are under the ground (1)
- 2** too close together (2)
- 3** roll over and over (4)
- 4** soft coat of hair; animal hair (7)
- 5** go on a journey (10)

**C** Look at the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.

- 6** Plants that are too \_\_\_\_\_ may not grow well.
- 7** Seeds can \_\_\_\_\_ many miles.
- 8** Have you ever seen a dried-up plant \_\_\_\_\_ down the street?
- 9** A plant sends its \_\_\_\_\_ into the ground.
- 10** An animal with long \_\_\_\_\_ can carry many seeds.

## THINK ABOUT IT

### D Where is the seed?

It is in the water.

That seed looks so odd!

A sentence that asks a question ends with a question mark (?). A sentence that tells something ends with a period (.). A sentence that tells something with strong feelings ends with an exclamation point (!).

Read each sentence. If it should end with a question mark, write *question*. If it should end with a period, write *period*. If it should end with an exclamation point, write *exclamation*.

- 1 Grab that seed
- 2 How do birds spread seeds
- 3 Plants need space to grow
- 4 Some seeds can float on water
- 5 Does every seed make  
a new plant

### E Jan is going to write about seeds and how they travel. Read each item. If it fits her main topic, write Yes. If it doesn't, write No.

- 6 Birds eat plants.
- 7 Snow covers the ground.
- 8 Rain makes puddles.
- 9 Wind blows hard.
- 10 Deer walk through bushes.