

Seed dispersal

Plants disperse their seeds in lots of different ways. Some seeds are transported by the wind and are shaped to float, glide or spin through the air. Some seed pods are designed to explode and throw the seeds a good distance from the parent plant. Many plants also use animals to carry their seeds.



Some seeds are sticky and attach to animals and insects who then carry the seed somewhere else for it to plant itself and grow.

Some plants rely on water to disperse their fruits. These will either grow on the water or by the side of water. Water lilies live on the water so they use the water to disperse their seeds. They make very light seeds which will float away on the water for a while, then sink to the bottom of a pond to grow a new lily.

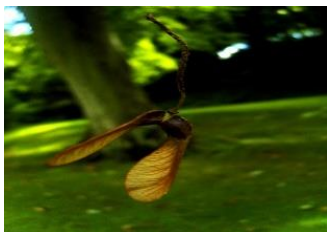
Lily seeds



water lily



Sycamore 'helicopters' and dandelion 'clocks' both have fruits which have adapted to use the wind to carry the seeds away when the seeds are ready.



Now watch these video clips below to find out more information about seed dispersal.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aC3pQ9RU9YA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CCOWHa-qfc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-xYVSfFX8n8>