## **Plant Clue Matching Game**

#### **Contents**

- Six 5" x 7" sick plant ("victim") cards. Print out each slide with the sick plant and cut along the blue line. Then, fold along the dotted line to create the sick plant card.
- Six 3" x 5" clue cards to print and cut out.

#### Rules

- Line up the victim cards with the sick plant image face up.
- Arrange the clue cards below the sick plant images in a random order.
- Players must attempt to match the clue card with the victim.
- When all attempts are made, turn over the victim cards to reveal the answer.

# PLANT CLUE! A Plant "Who Done It" Mystery What made these plants sick?

Can you figure it out?

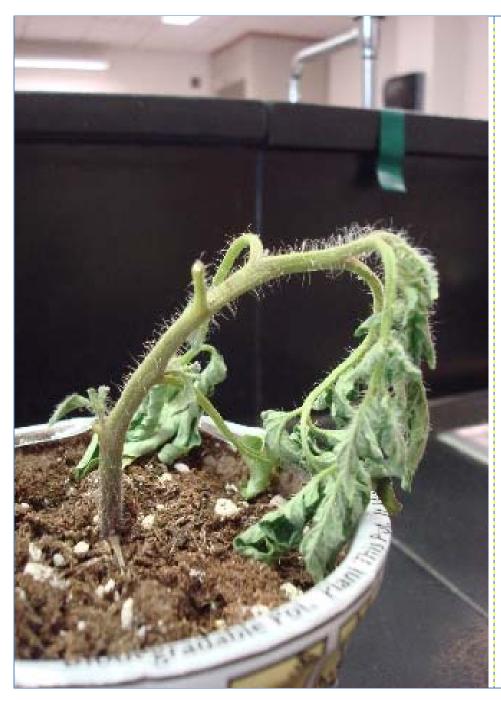


# Sometimes plant can get too much light!



Too much high light can damage the leaves. This is called photodamage.

When plants get too much light they make pigments which give them a different color. This aloe plant is a brownish color instead of green color.



### I need water!



On hot days, little plants dry out quickly.

When plant cells lose water, the cells become soft and the plant wilts.

Don't despair! With watering the plant can return to normal. But, neglecting the plant too many times, and it will not grow very big or produce many fruit!

5" x 7" Victim card. Fold on dotted line. Image: Marcia Harrison-Pitaniello. Clip art: openclipart.org



# Deer like to eat their vegetables!



These leaves may look like a very hungry caterpillar at them, but deer like to browse and taste lots of plants when they visit a garden. This wounds the leaves and the plant cells around the wound die. But, this prevents the wound from spreading — sort of like a scar when you have a cut.

5" x 7" Victim card. Fold on dotted line. Image: Marcia Harrison-Pitaniello. Clip art: openclipart.org



## Plants need minerals too!



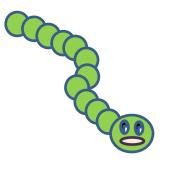
Indoor and garden plants can suffer from lack of minerals in the soil.

That is why they need good compost or fertilizer to grow strong.

In this plant, lack of potassium, caused the tips of the leaves to die back.



## A hungry caterpillar!



Caterpillars like to munch on leaves! They can do a lot of damage.

But, the plant can protect itself. It has chemicals that makes the other leaves stronger. Plants even have chemicals that will attract insects that attack the caterpillars. This summer watch for hornworms that attack tomato plants.



## It's cold tonight!



Even just 2 cold nights can affect the growth of a plant.

In this experiment, the plant on the left had 2 cold treatments. This caused the plant to wilt then grow more slowly.

The plant will probably get better when it is warmer, but too many cold nights and it might not produce many tomatoes.



## Plants need fertilizer!

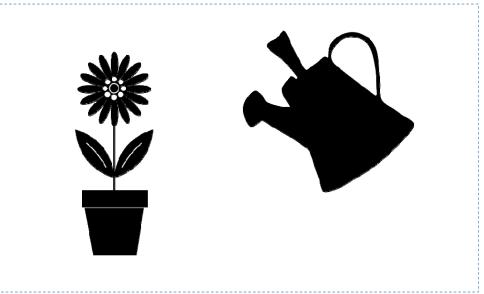


Indoor and garden plants can suffer from lack of minerals in the soil.

That is why they need good compost or fertilizer to grow strong.

In this plant, lack of nitrogen, caused the younger leaves to turn yellow.



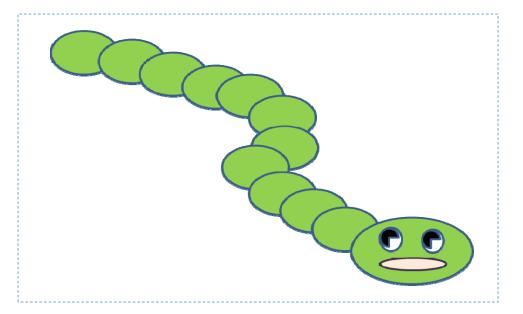






3" x 5" Clue cards. Clip art: openclipart.org





## Acknowledgements

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The following people contributed to the development of this game.

The Marshall-BLOOME:

Mark Castle

Angela Kargul

Mohammed Shaikh

Plant physiology students:

Courtney Christian

Austin Riggs

Chelsey Romero.