



FUN FACTS ABOUT MUSHROOMS



NOT A PLANT

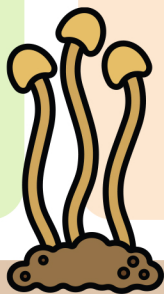
Mushrooms are fungi, not plants, and cannot make their own food from sunlight.

SPEEDY GROWERS

Some mushrooms can grow several inches in just 24 hours.

SPORE POWER

A single mature mushroom can release trillions of spores into the air.



UNDERGROUND GIANT

The largest living organism on Earth is a single honey fungus mycelium in Oregon that covers over 2,000 acres.

NATURE'S RECYCLERS

Mushrooms and other fungi break down dead leaves, logs, and animals, returning nutrients to the soil.



ANCIENT LIFE

Fungi have been growing on Earth for over a billion years, long before plants existed.

NOT ALONE

About 90% of land plants rely on fungi to help their roots absorb water and nutrients.

MANY SHAPES

There are more than 10,000 known species of mushrooms, in colors and shapes far beyond the classic cap and stem.

GLOW IN THE DARK

Some mushroom species glow a soft green in the dark, a trait called bioluminescence.



TREE TALKERS

Scientists have found that trees connected by underground fungal networks can share resources and warning signals.