



British Union Conference



Cacti

e - Honour

Requirements



- ✦ Name the chief characteristics of a cactus
- ✦ Name four uses of cacti
- ✦ In What places are cacti the most plentiful? Why?
- ✦ Know and identify from pictures 15 species of cacti

HOMEWORK

- ✦ Photograph, observe or sketch at least 10 species of cacti and classify them
- ✦ OR Grow at least 3 different species of cacti

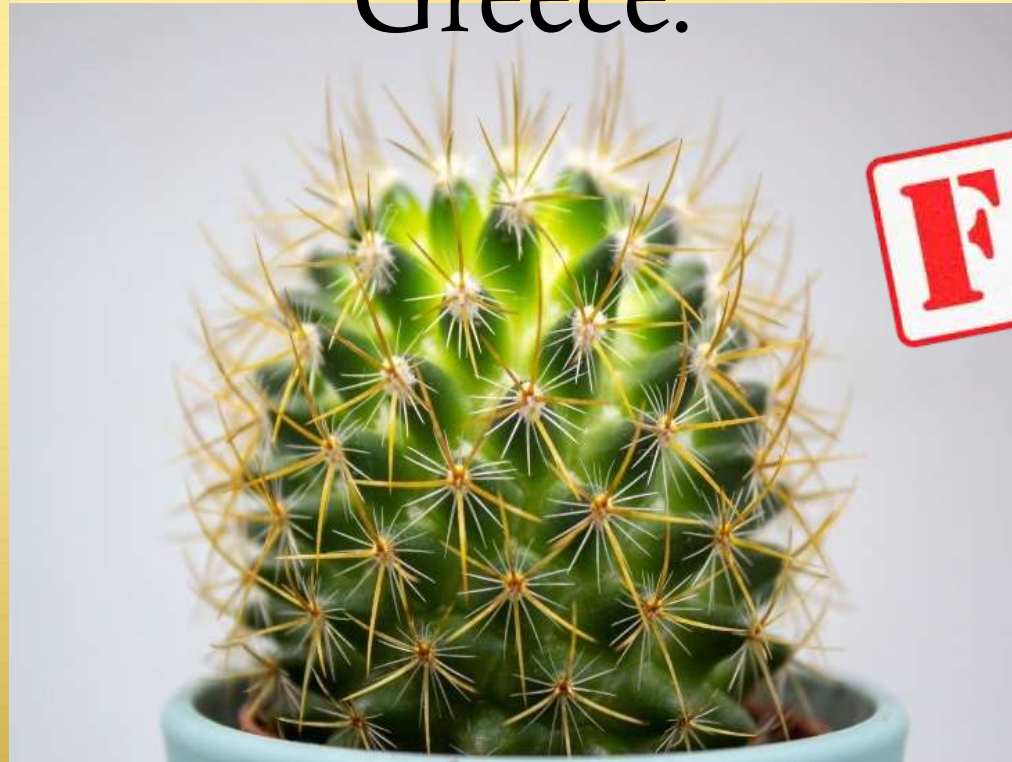
Cacti or Cactus?



✦ Cactus is a noun - singular ✦ Cacti is plural – multiple



Cactus originates from the Greek name Kaktos. Kaktos is a Spanish artichoke or the “prickly plant of Sicily” as many refer to it in Greece.



FACT

1. Name the chief characteristics of a cactus



Areoles

- ✦ Where flowers, branches and spines sprout from



- ✦ Distinguishing feature not found on succulents

Spines

- ✦ Vary greatly in appearance, shape, size and colour



Airflow can lead to water loss, and
spines help break the flow of air
around a cactus plant



Flowers

✦ Spectacular and very complex



Leaves

- ✦ Most cacti do not have leaves, however, some do



Origin

- ✦ All cacti are native to the America's and surrounding islands.



Origin

- ✦ One exception –
Rhipsalis Baccifera



2. Name four uses of cacti



Cosmetics



Decorative



Edible Fruit Producing

✦ Such as Pickly Pear, Dragon Fruit



Host for bugs

- ✦ The Opuntia is also used as a host for cochineal bugs for the Cochineal dye industry



Windbreak

- ✦ In island locations large cacti are used as windbreaks around the edge of fields



3a. In What places are cacti the most plentiful?

✦ Dry climates – Deserts



Cacti can store an unbelievable amount of water in a short time – they can store gallons of water in its stem



FACT

3a. In What places are cacti the most plentiful?

✦ Rocky Terrain – Mountains



3a. In What places are cacti the most plentiful?

- ✦ Can also thrive in jungles



3b. Why?


- ✦ They prefer sandy/rock soil
- ✦ Because water doesn't pool around them
- ✦ Soil is nutrient rich



The average lifespan of a cactus plant is between 10 to 200 years



FACT



4. Know and identify from pictures 15 species of cacti

Dragon Fruit

Pitaya

- ✦ Origin: The Americas
- ✦ Now: Wide spread in tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world
- ✦ 3 types of Dragon fruit
- ✦ Thrives in hot, humid climates



Prickly Pear

Opuntia

- ✦ Origin: The Americas
- ✦ Can grow 5-7 metres with a 1 metre trunk
- ✦ Thrives in dry, hot climates with mild winters



Christmas Cactus

Schlumbergera

- ✦ Origin: Brazil – Rio de Janeiro
- ✦ Light: Partial Shade
- ✦ Warmer Climates
- ✦ Generally flowers Christmas or Easter
- ✦ Many colours of flower



Valentine Hoya

Hoya Kerrii

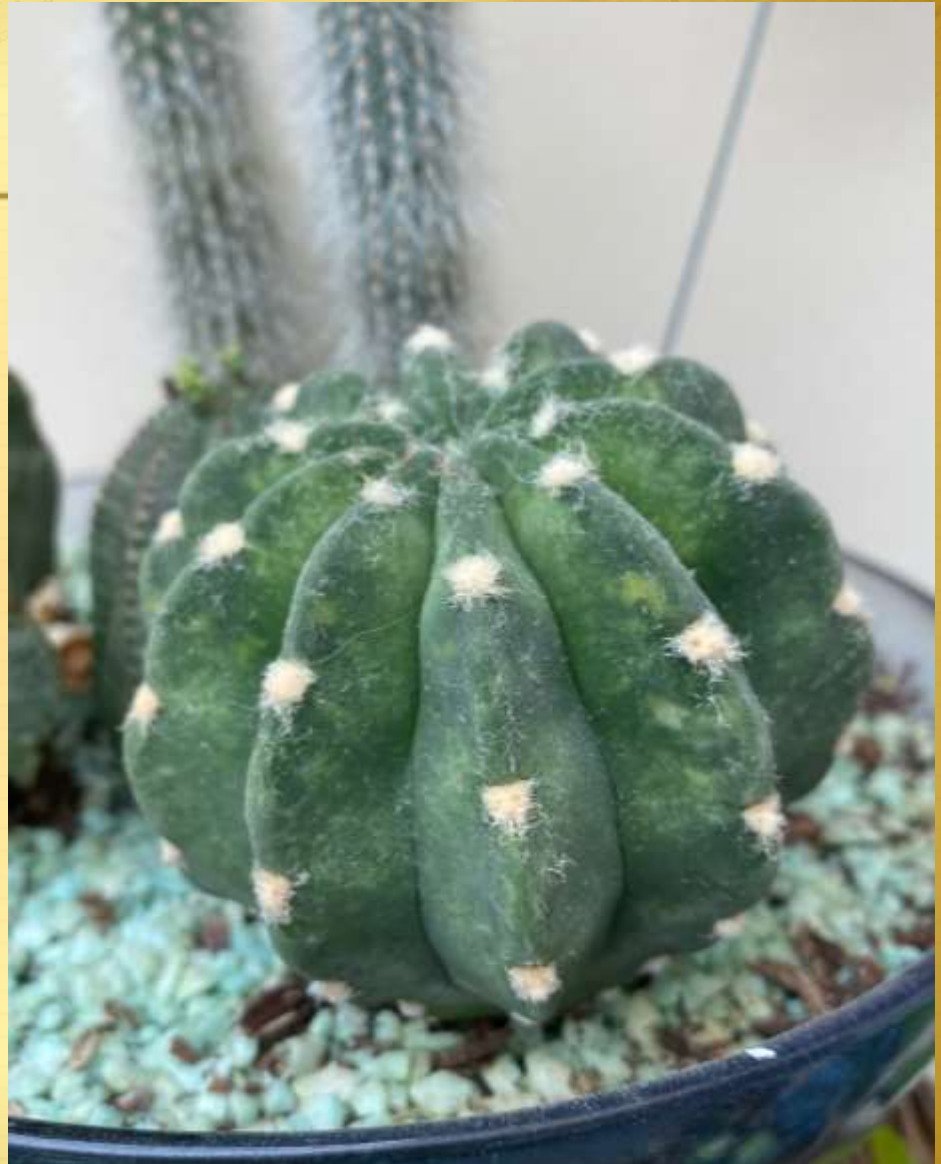
- ✦ Also known as Lucky heart, Sweetheart plant
- ✦ Origin: South East Asia
- ✦ Sunny, bright spot
- ✦ Water: once a month



Hedgehog

Echinopsis Subdenudata

- ✦ Origin: Bolivia
- ✦ Also known as Sea-urchin cactus or Easter lily Cactus
- ✦ Grow in sandy or gravelly soil or in rock crevices
- ✦ Large white flowers in summer



Bishop's Cap

Astrophytum coahuilense

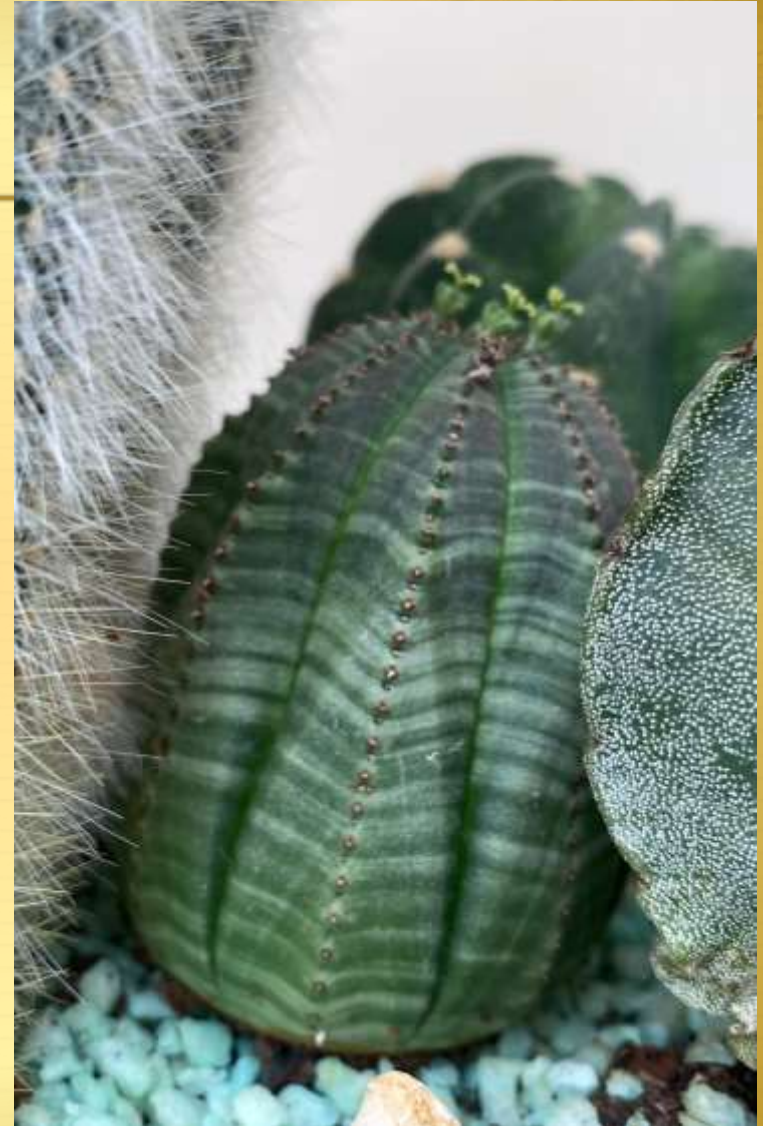
- ✦ Origin: Mexico
- ✦ Size: 6-12 inches
- ✦ Light: Full day, partial shade
- ✦ Hardy to -10c



Gingham Golf ball

Euphorbia Obesa

- ✦ Origin: South Africa (Cape)
- ✦ Full Sun
- ✦ Soil: well drained, sand and loam
- ✦ Takes 10-20 years to get to 50cms tall



Mammillaria Herrerae

- ✦ Origin: Queretaro, Mexico
- ✦ Semi- Desert shrubland
- ✦ Threatened by habitat loss and illegal collection



Cabega

Austrocephalocereus

Dybowskii

- ✦ Origin: Eastern and Northern Bahia, Brazil
- ✦ Light: Partial Shade
- ✦ Tropical climates



Eve's Needle

A. subulata

- ✦ Origin: South America
- ✦ Shrubby cacti with cylindrical stems
- ✦ 'Long-Spine Cactus'



Peruvian Old Man

Espositoa Lanata

- ✦ Origin: South America; Ecuador to Peru on the west slopes of the Andes mountains
- ✦ Also known as:
Peruvian Snowball or
Cotton Ball
- ✦ Well adapted to high altitudes



Dwarf Chin Cactus

*Gymnocalycium
Baldianum*

- ✦ Argentina
- ✦ Grows up to 5 inches tall
- ✦ Light shading from the sun



Silken Pincushion

Mammillaria Bombycina

- ✦ Origin: western central Mexico
- ✦ Grows up to 20cms tall
- ✦ Rose pink flowers on upper surface in spring and summer



Parodia Rubelliamata

- ✦ Origin: Argentina
- ✦ High altitude
- ✦ Prefers less light
- ✦ Likes more water than others
- ✦ Produces big yellow to orange flowers



Euphorbia Candelabrum


- ✦ Origin: Horn of Africa
- ✦ Bright, direct sunlight
- ✦ Soil: well drained, light, sandy



Moon Cactus

- ✦ Actually two cacti grafted together
- ✦ Shorter life span





5. Photograph, observe or sketch at least 10 species of cacti and classify them

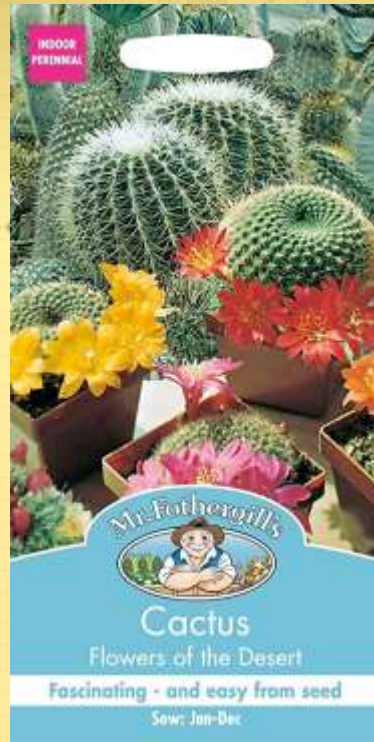




OR



Grow at least 3 different
species of cacti



New cacti plants can grow from dislodged spikes



FACT

Spines that are blown around by strong desert winds or that pierce animals often find themselves in new locations.

An intro to Cacti Advanced



- ✦ Succulents are water retaining plants that store water in their leaves, stems and roots – thick fleshy tissues
- ✦ Climate: Dry with minimal rain



Which one is not a Cacti?



A



B



C



B Jade plant – *Cassula Ovata* – native to South Africa

Which plants are not Cacti?



A



B



C



B, C - Echeveria – 150 species native from Texas to Argentina

Which plants are not Cacti?



A



B



C



D



E



F



B, C, F - Aloe – 400 species – Native to Africa – esp. South Africa's Cape Province

Which one is not a Cacti?



A



B



C



C - Sedum – 400 species – found in the Northern Hemisphere

Which one is not a Cacti?



A



B



C



A – Ice Plant – a creeping, mat - forming species

3. Know the definitions of the following terms within a cacti/succulents frame of reference.



- ✦ a. Areole
- ✦ b. Cephalium
- ✦ c. Coalesce
- ✦ d. Corymb
- ✦ e. Diurnal
- ✦ f. Epiphyte
- ✦ g. Glochid
- ✦ h. Nocturnal
- ✦ i. Offshoot
- ✦ j. Panicle
- ✦ k. Scale
- ✦ l. Stolon
- ✦ m. Zygomorphic



4. When raising succulents — including cacti — they may be attacked by maladies.

What are the most common and how can you prevent or cure the problems?



5. Propagate at least one plant by using one of the following methods: from seed, by cuttings, or grafting.