Vocabulary: school garden, rules, edible

SCHOOL GARDEN EXPLORATION

KINDERGARTEN

Description

Students visit the school garden and learn that it is a place of learning that has rules, like the classroom, gym, library or other areas of the school. While visiting the garden, students discover what grows in the school garden.



Guiding Question	**Big Idea**
What can we learn in the school garden?	The school garden is a place to learn about living and non-living things.

Learning Objectives

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to follow the rules of the school garden, to name several plants and objects in the garden, and to distinguish between edible and non-edible things in the school garden.

Materials

Illustrations KF1a - KF1l.

Preparation

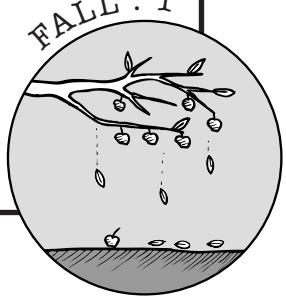
Visit the school garden to see what is growing.
Recruit and train volunteers to help manage the classroom during the garden visit.
Select and make copies of Illustrations KF1a - KF1l.

Introducing the Lesson

First, tell the students that they will visit the school garden today. Ask them whether they know where the school garden is and what happens there. Introduce the school garden as a place of learning just like the gym, library, and music room are. Ask them what they think they will learn in the school garden.

Second, establish that the school garden, just like other places in the school, has rules for appropriate behavior. Lead a discussion with students about why rules are important in the garden, talking about reasons such as these: *There are living things in the garden. The school garden, like the library, is cared for by everyone and used by everyone. We need to be safe in the school garden.* Brainstorm a list of rules to follow in the garden such as these: *Only pick plants when instructed to do so. Stay on the paths unless instructed to go off them. Respect the work that other people have done.*

Lesson time: 30 to 45 minutes



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Procedure

1. Go to the school garden. Remind students, as they enter the garden, to follow the rules you discussed in the classroom.

2. Show the students around the garden and have them stop and observe what is happening in various garden areas.

3. Use edible plants to lead a game of "I Spy" with the class, with prompts such as, "I spy something red and round that is bigger than a grape but smaller than an orange." (*Answer:* cherry tomato)

4. Hand out selected Illustrations from KF1a - KF1l and provide time for students to color the fruits and vegetables.

Assessing Student Knowledge

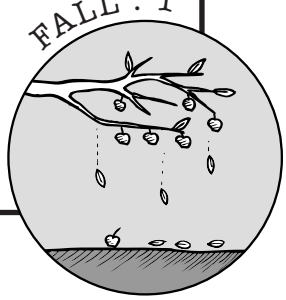
Conduct informal assessments of your students' knowledge by asking them to do some or all of the following:

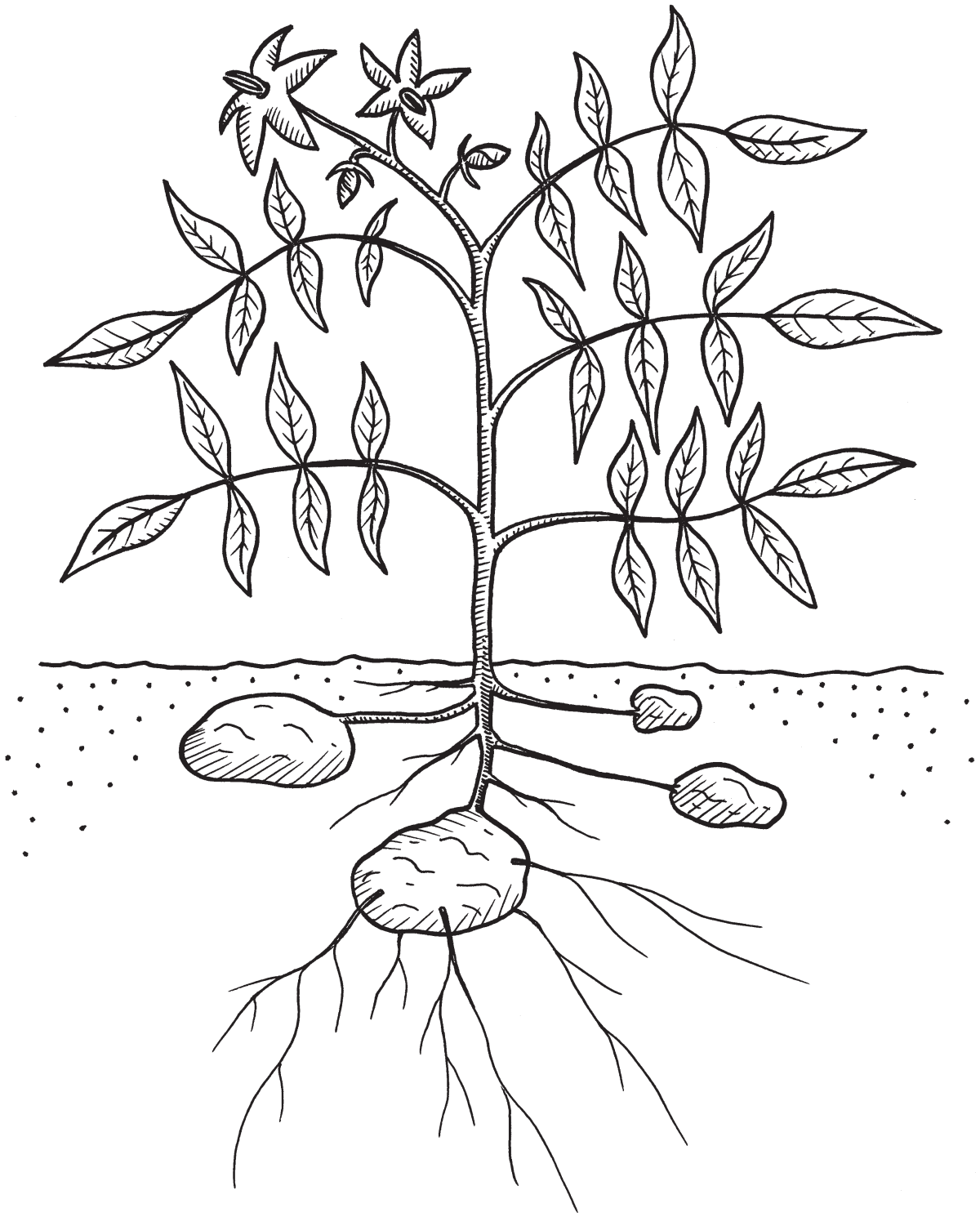
Describe where the school garden is located and what happens there.
Demonstrate that they can follow the rules of the school garden during their visit.
Name plants they saw in the school garden.

OR. Dept. of Ed. Key Standards

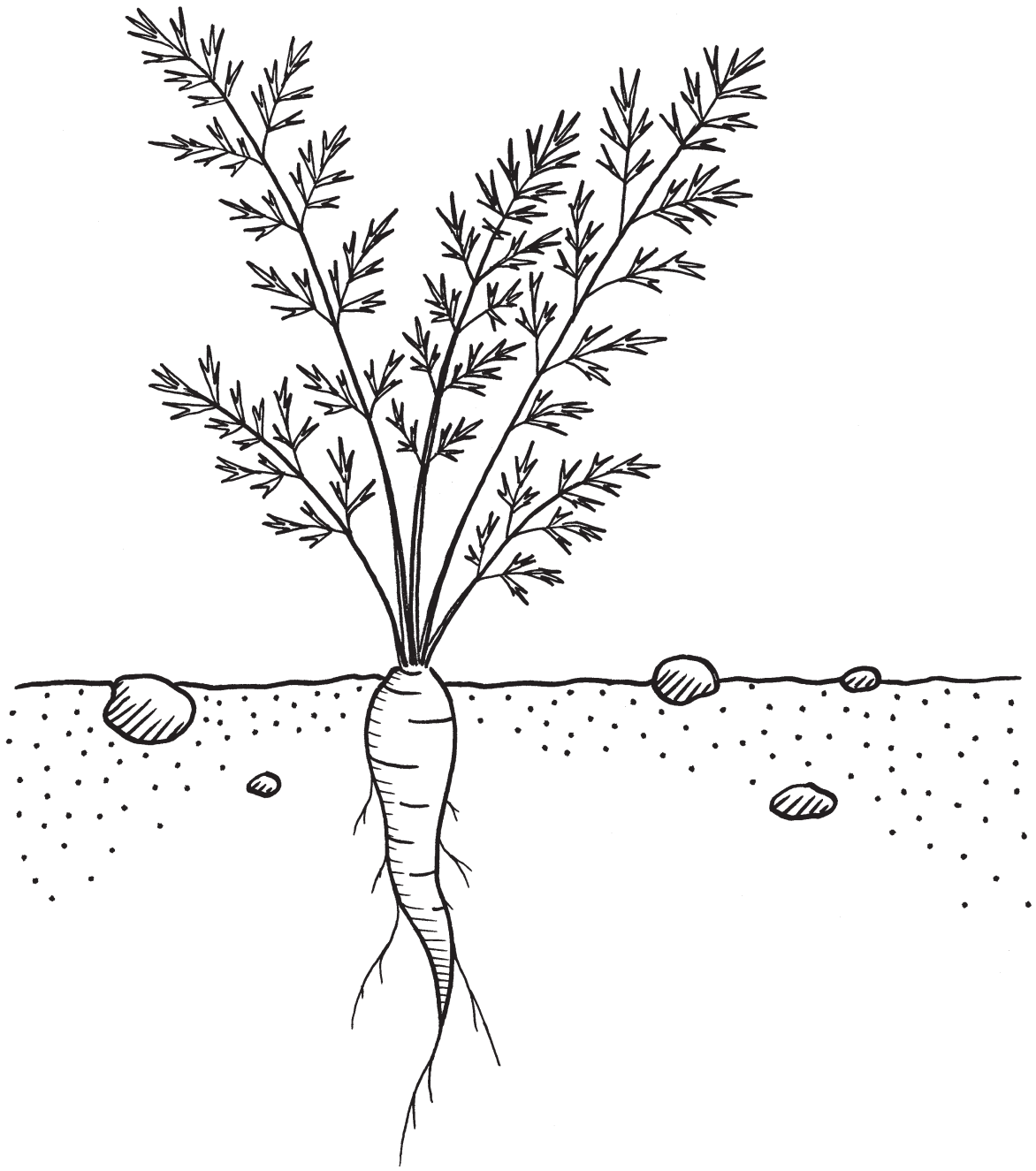
Science Content Standards:
K.3S.2 Make observations about the natural world.

Oregon Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects:
K.SL.4 Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.
K.9 Locate, identify, and describe places of importance to self, family, and school.
K.12 Explain why rules are needed and how rules reduce conflict and promote fairness.
K.L.5(a) Sort common objects into categories (e.g., shapes, foods) to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.





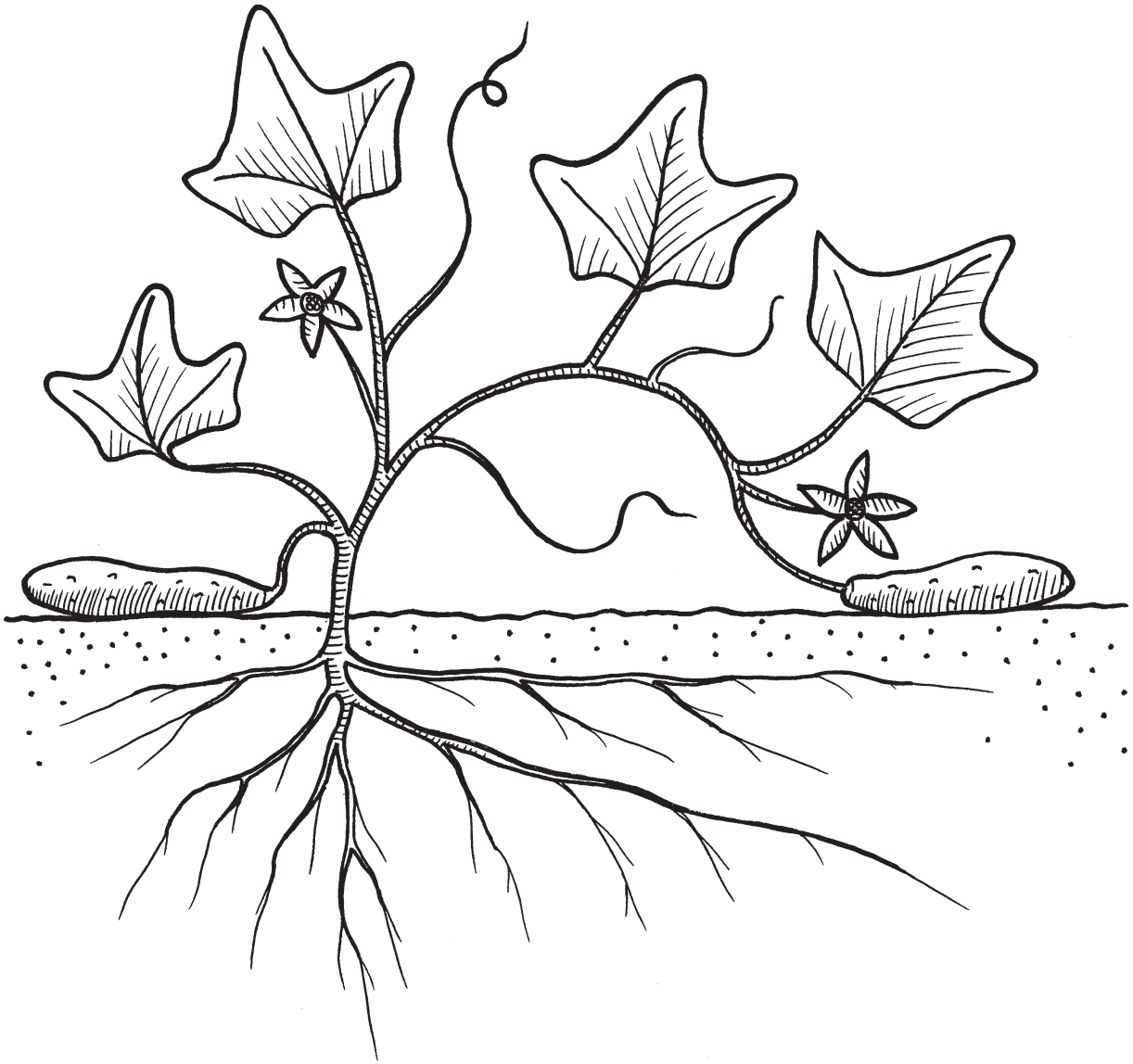
KF1a



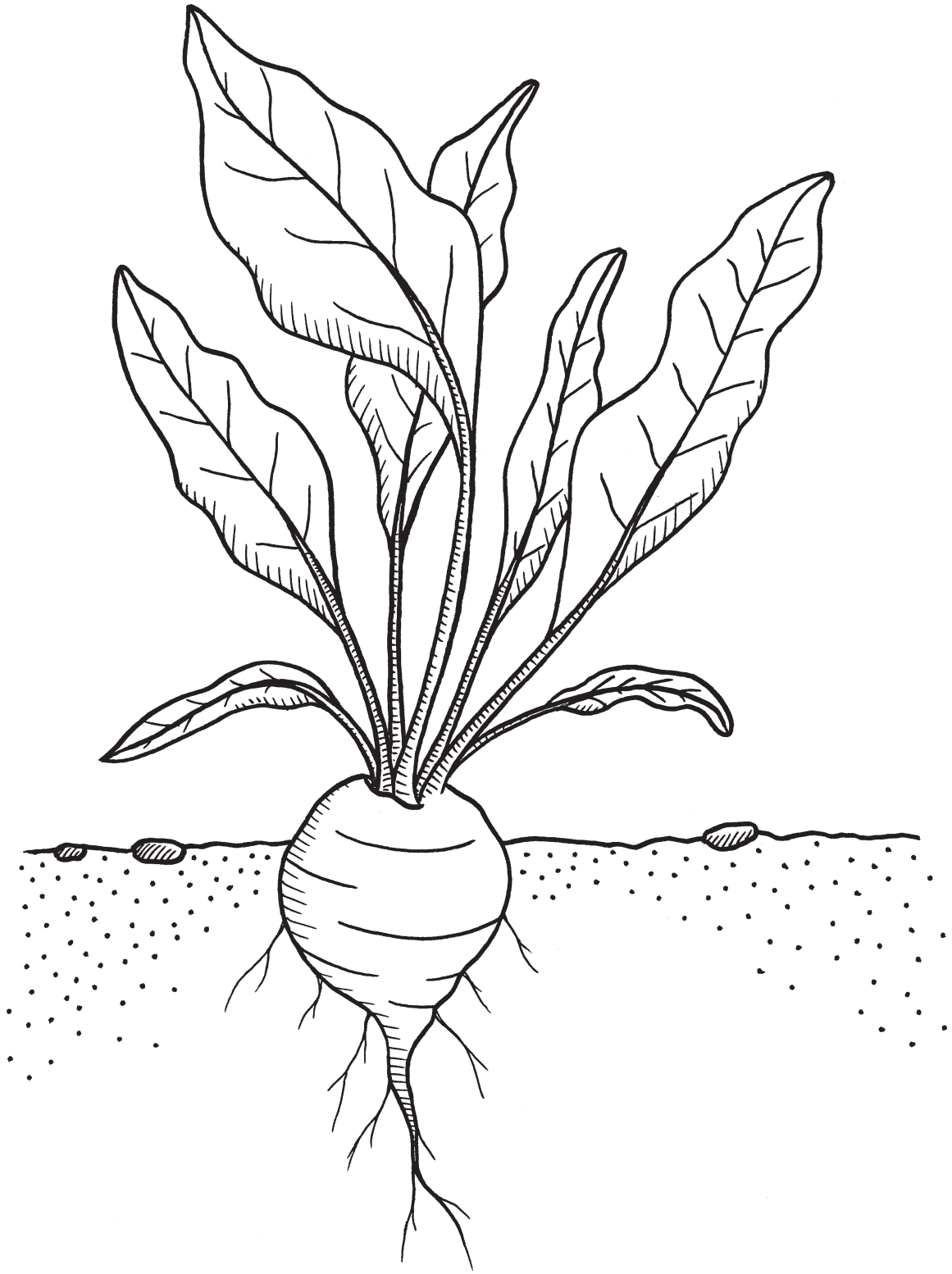
KF1b



KF1c



KF1d



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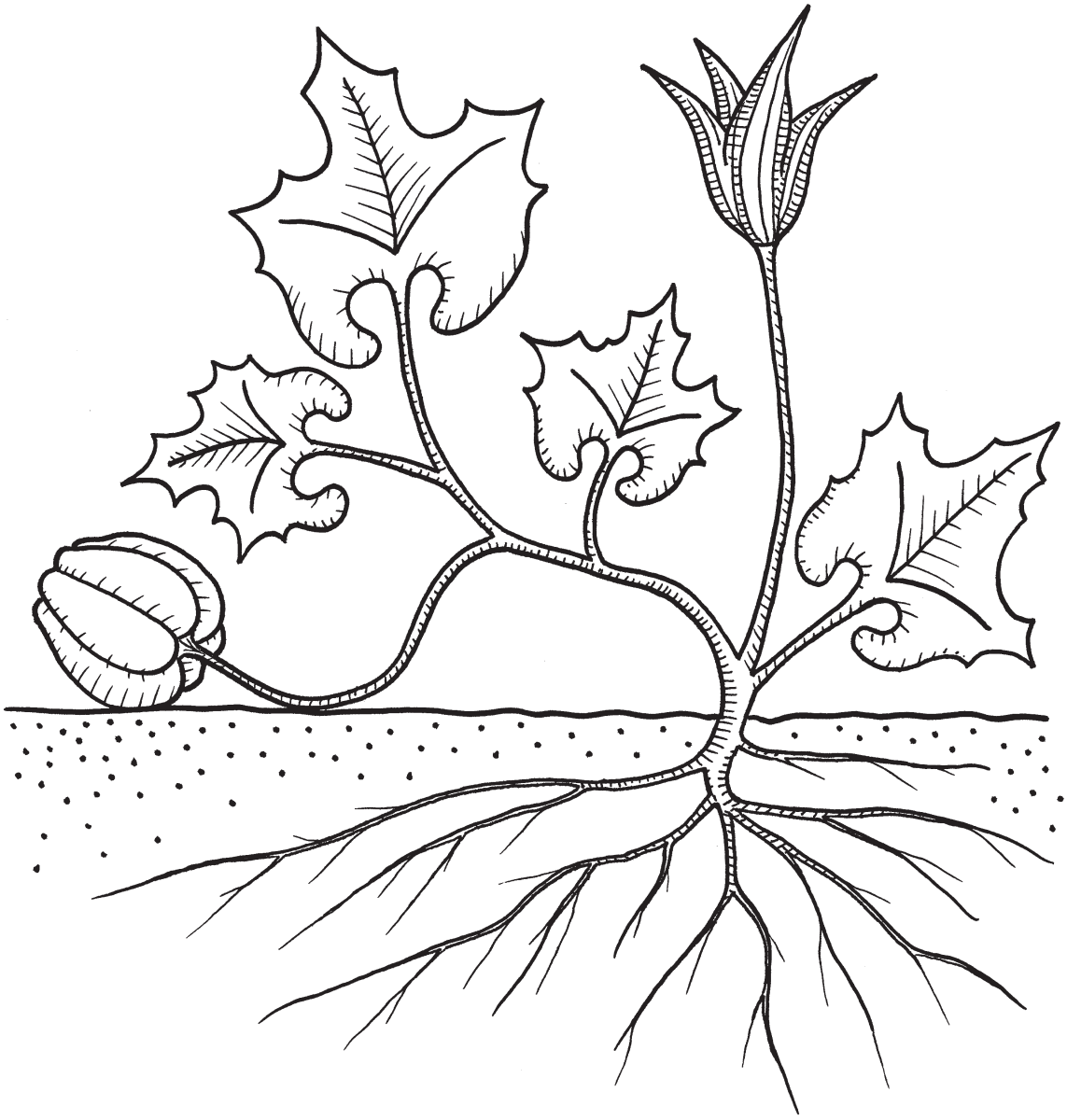
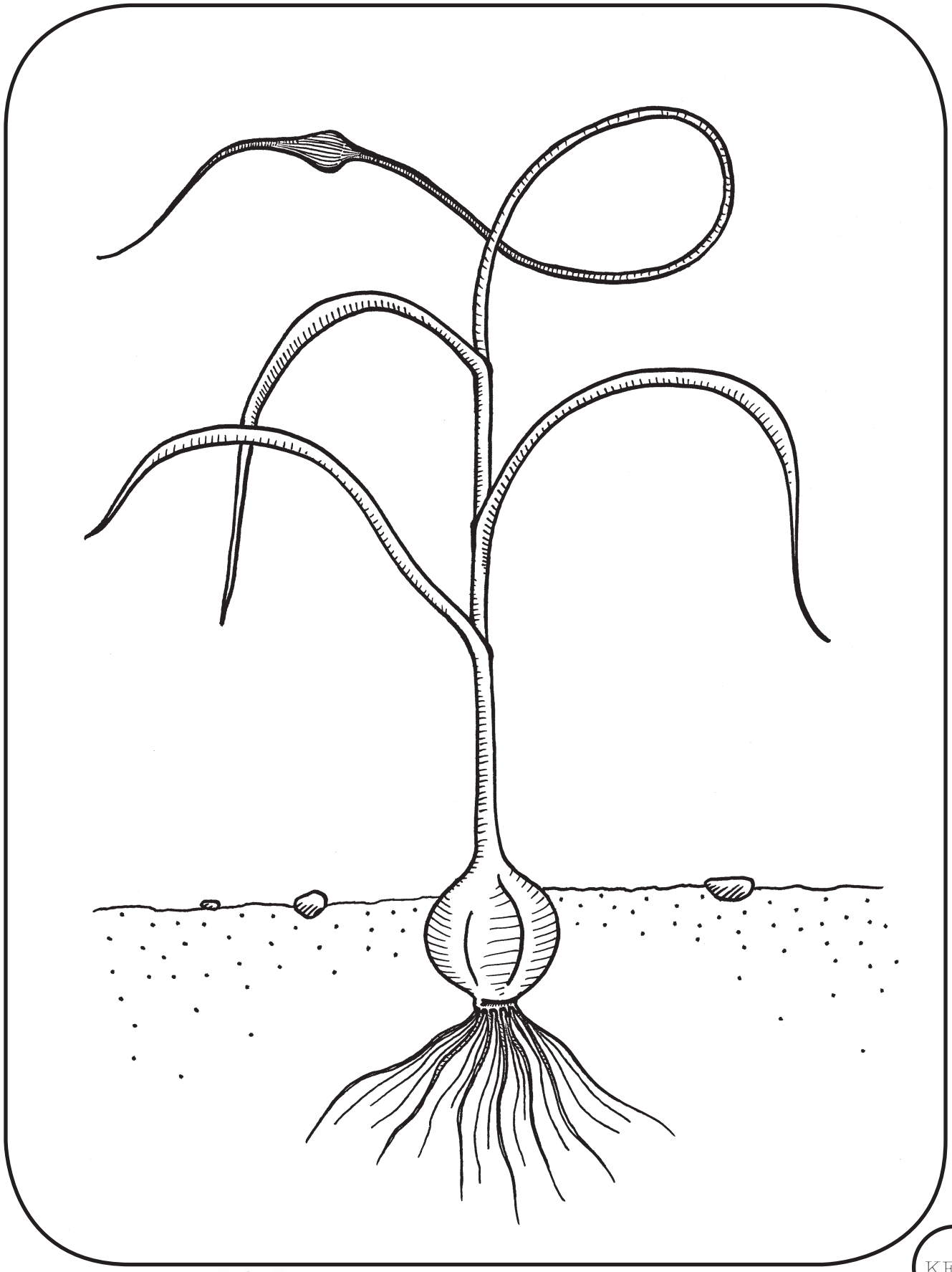
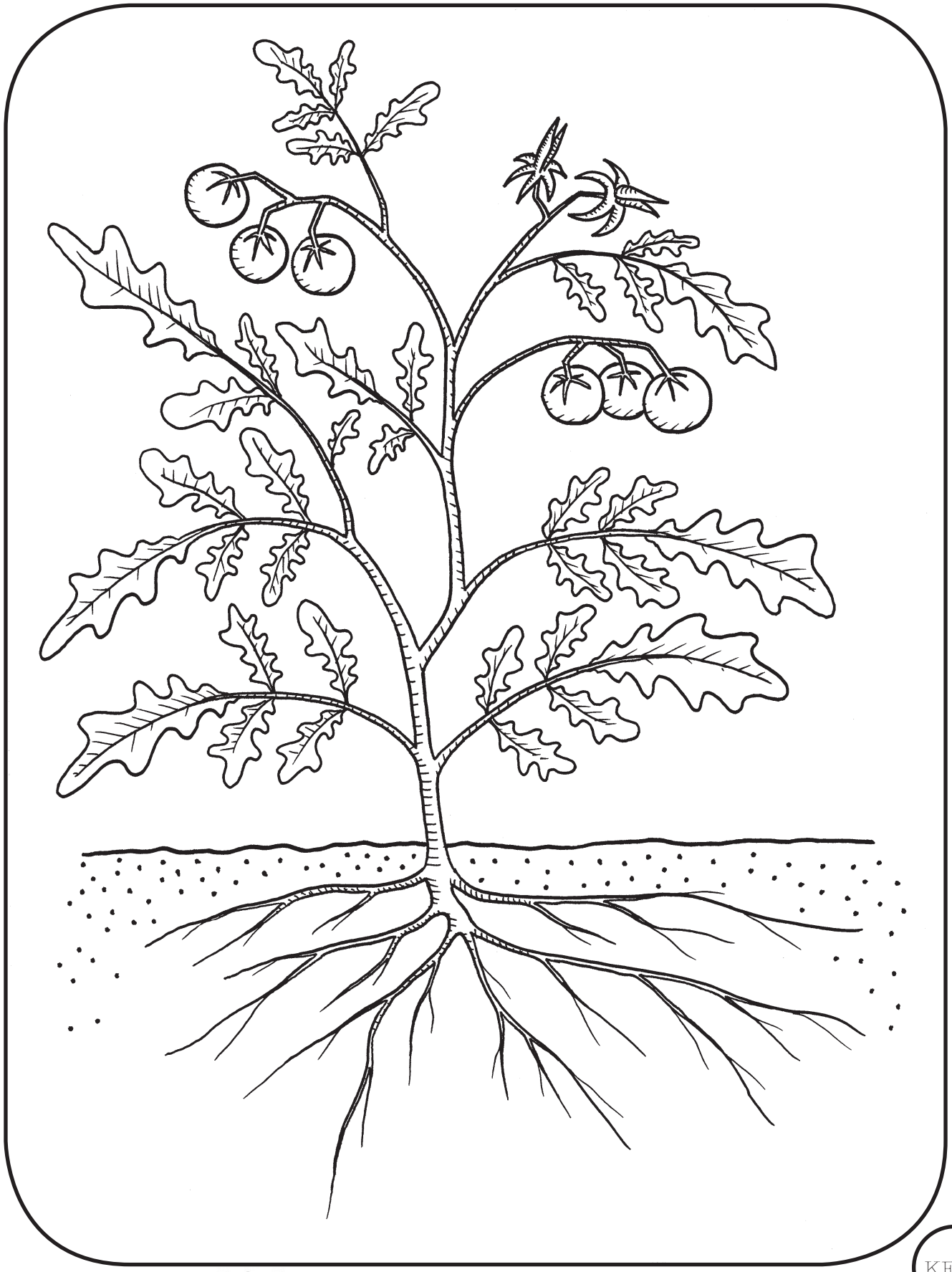


KF1f



KF1g



KF1h

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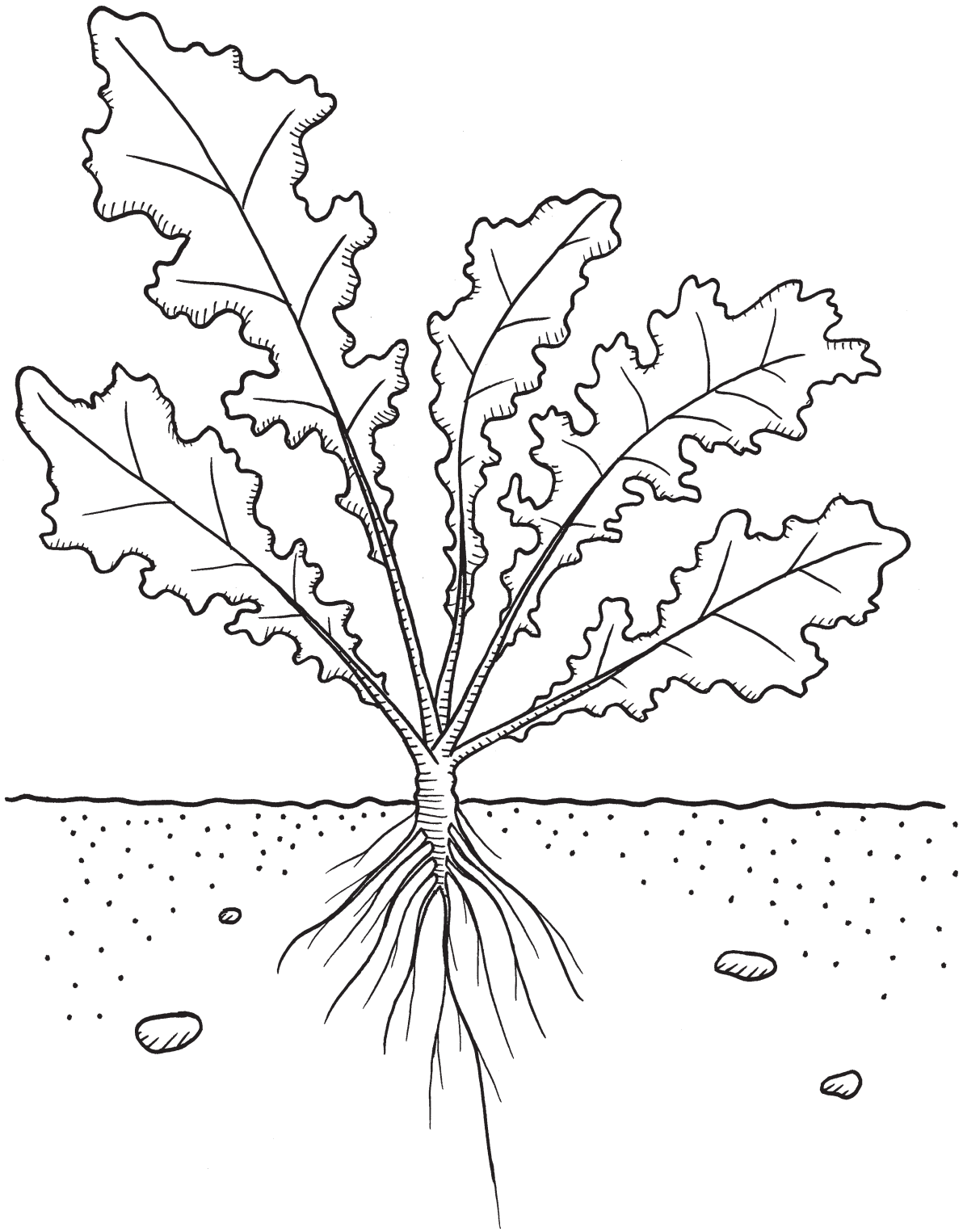
Portland Partners *for* School Food and Garden Education



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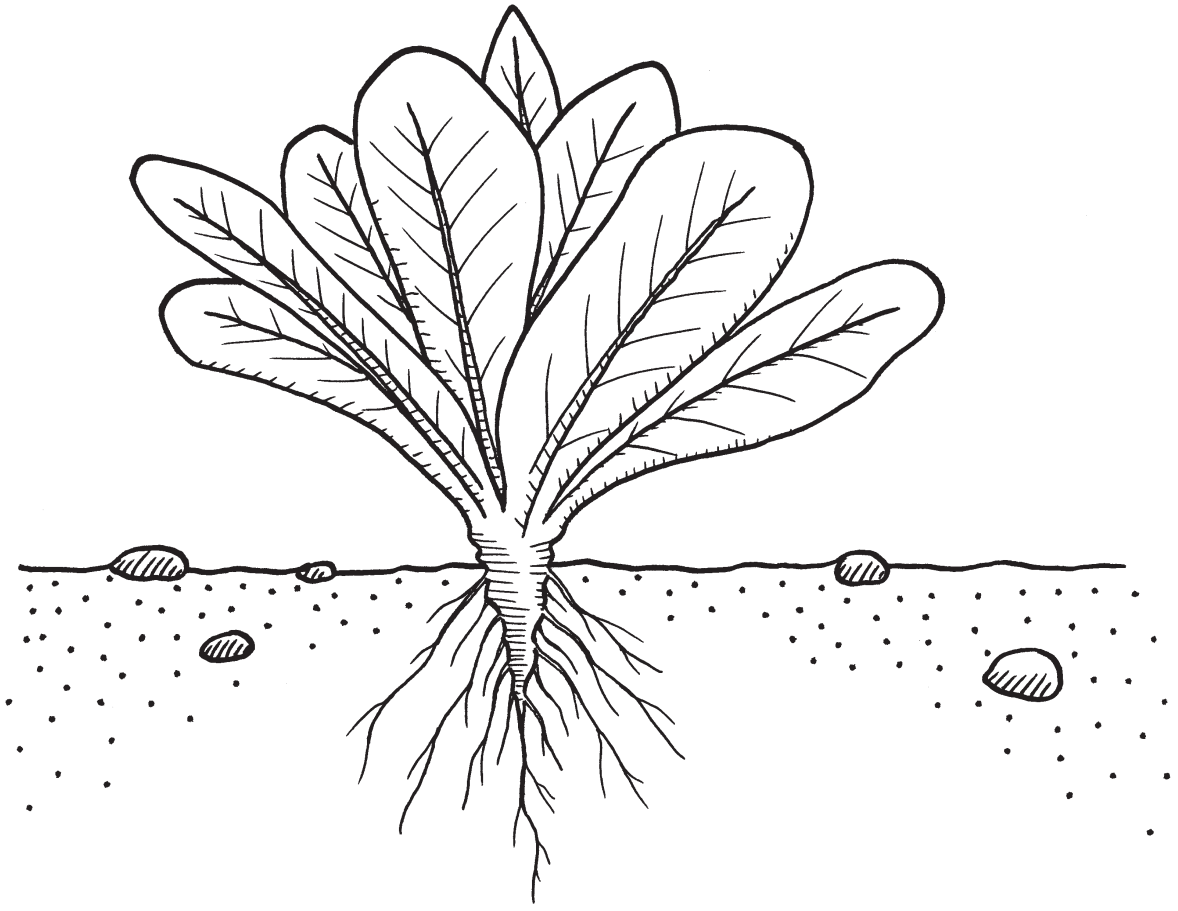

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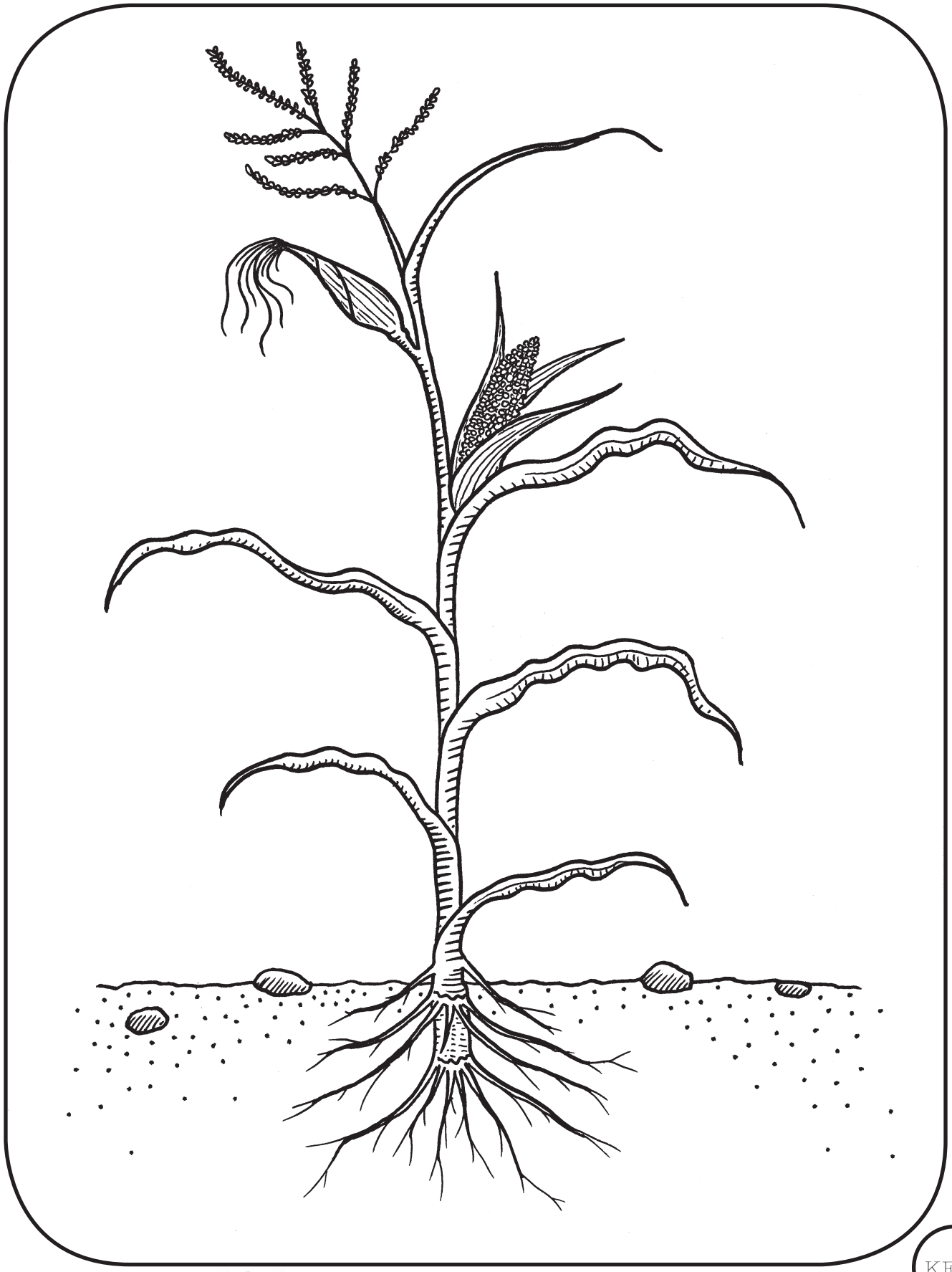
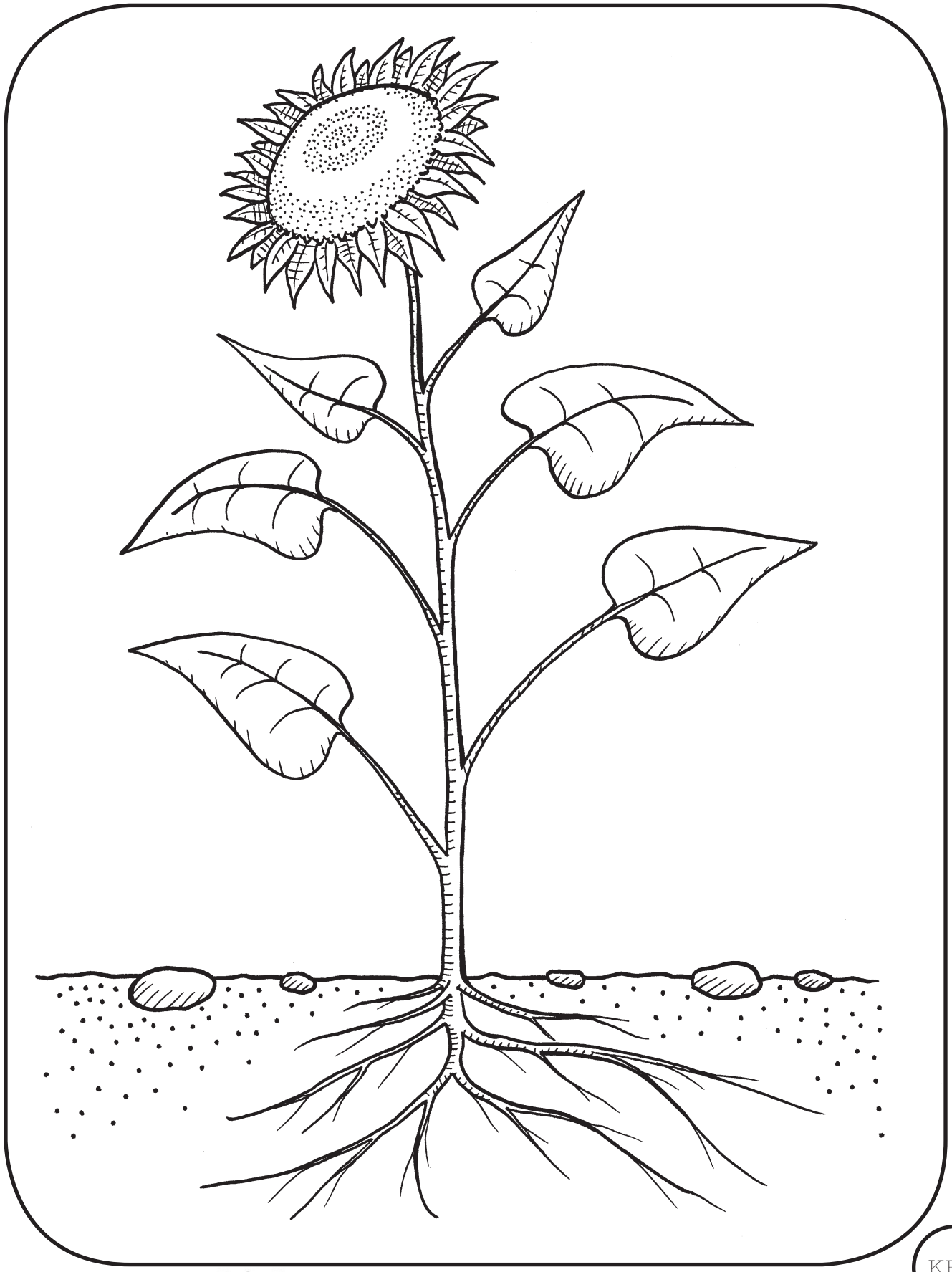


KF1k



KF11