



Sunflowers

The sunflower plant is a very attractive yellow flower. It gets its name from its yellow sun-like face and also from the ability to rotate its face toward the sun as the sun moves from east to west during the day. With plenty of sun and water, the sunflower can grow over three metres tall. 1

The sunflower is so beautiful that it is often used in flower arrangements. It has been painted by many artists, too. Even the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh 2

did a series of sunflower paintings. The sunflower design is often used in arts and crafts and even fabric for clothing.

However, the sunflower is more than a pretty yellow flower. It is an important farm crop and provides food for people and wildlife. Sunflower seeds are used as a snack food. Birds love sunflower seeds and many people buy black oil sunflower seeds for their bird feeders.

3

The most important use of the sunflower crop is for sunflower oil. Sunflower oil is extracted from sunflower seeds. It is used for salad dressings, frying, and baking.

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So you can see that the sunflower is a beautiful plant and also an excellent source of food. It is a very important crop on prairie farms in Canada.

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- 1** What kind of text is this piece of reading?
- a poem
 - a story
 - an article
 - a piece of news
- 2** What is the first paragraph of the text mainly about?
- things that are special about the sunflower
 - how the sunflower gets its name
 - the size of the sunflower
 - how the sunflower can grow tall
- 3** According to the text, which word shows that Vincent Van Gogh is well-known?
- series
 - artist
 - famous
 - paintings
- 4** According to the text, which of the following statements is true?
- Sunflowers can turn to face the sun.
 - Sunflowers are a snack food.
 - Birds like to feed on sunflowers.
 - Sunflowers are used for baking.