

CELLS ONLINE WORKSHEET

TOPIC

CELLS AND HAIRS

Hair is as a structure that grows out of the skin an organism. Human hairs are produced by cells in the hair follicle – a bundle of cells embedded in the skin. The hairs themselves are not made of cells, but of the proteins produced by the cells. Plants can also have ‘hairs’. Specialised cells near the tip of growing roots are called root hair cells (Slide A). Leaves may have hairs growing out from the surface (Slide B). Use these photos of plant cells viewed with a light microscope to answer the questions below.

SLIDE A – Root Hair Cell

(400x magnification)



SLIDE B – Leaf hair

(100x magnification)



Download this page, place in your notebook and answer the following questions.

Q1: Describe the difference in cellular make up of the root hairs compared to the leaf hairs.

Q2: Are either of these plant ‘hairs’ similar to human hairs?

Q3: Suggest a reason why root hair cells are useful to plants.

Q4: Suggest a reason why leaf hairs are useful for plants.