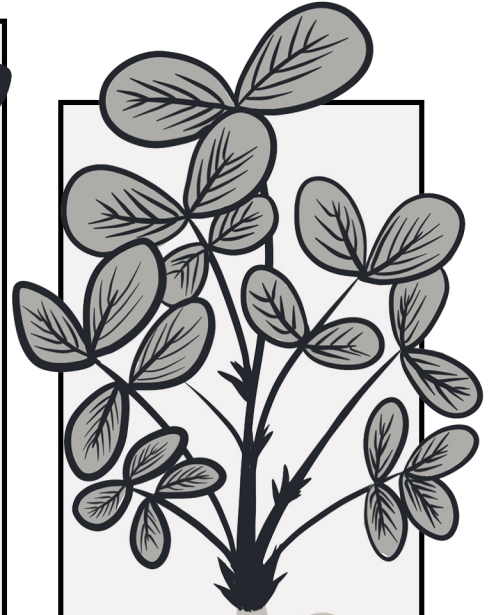


Growth of the Peanut Plant

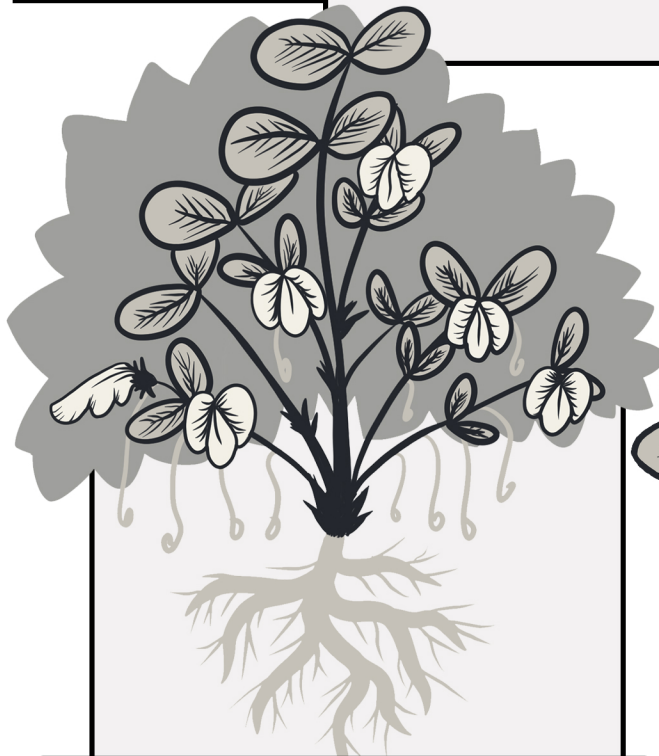
Florida peanut farmers plant peanuts in springtime. The seed that is planted is the same as the peanut we eat!



10 days after planting, peanuts germinate and the seedling emerges.



The seed grows into a bushy green plant with oval-shaped leaves. When fully grown, the plant will be about 18 inches tall.



About 40 days after planting, yellow flowers bloom. Then, a special part of the plant called a peg grows down from the flower and pushes into the soil.



Under the ground, the peg matures into a peanut! The peanut is technically the fruit of the plant. In the fall, after growing for about 145 days, the peanuts are ready for the farmers to dig up and harvest.