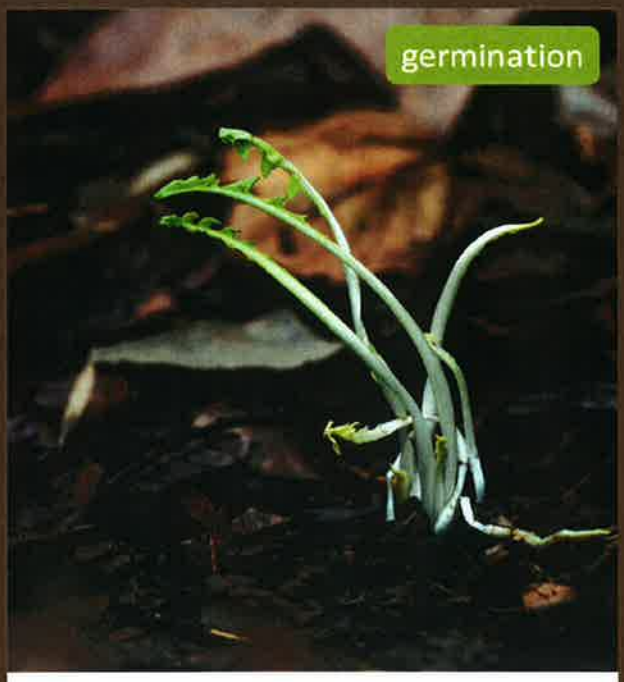



Dandelion plants start life as seeds. Most seeds need warmth, water and the right location (such as soil) to grow.




The first green shoots grow from the seed and roots begin to form under the soil.



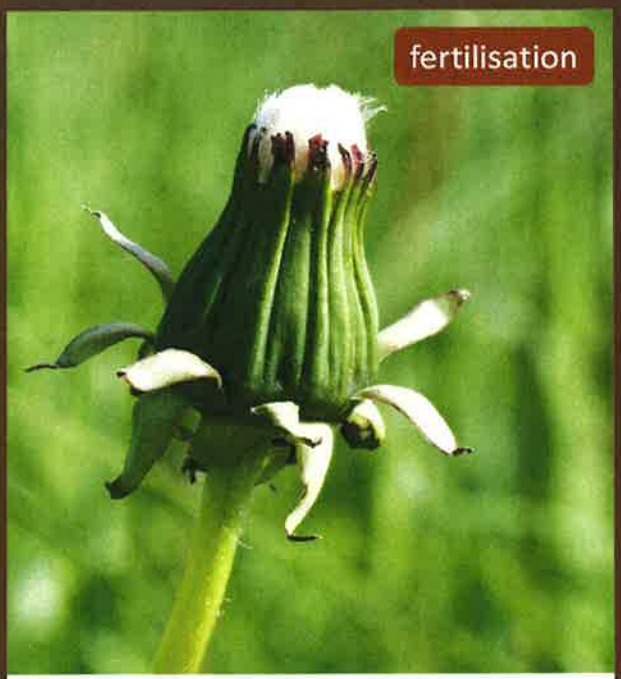

Once the dandelion is big enough, it is ready to produce a flower. Flowers have brightly coloured petals and nectar (a sweet liquid) that attract insects.




Pollen, a powdery substance found inside flowers, is transferred from one flower to another by insects as they feed on nectar.



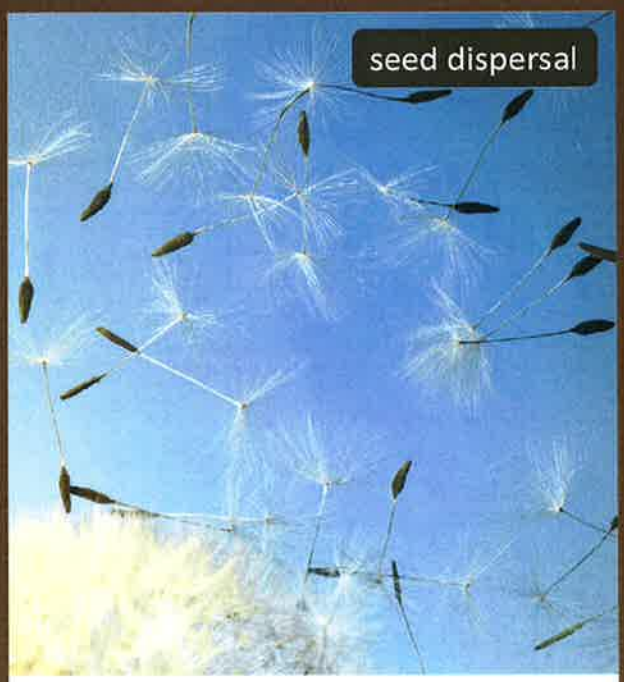
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The pollen travels into the flower's ovary where it fertilises egg cells.



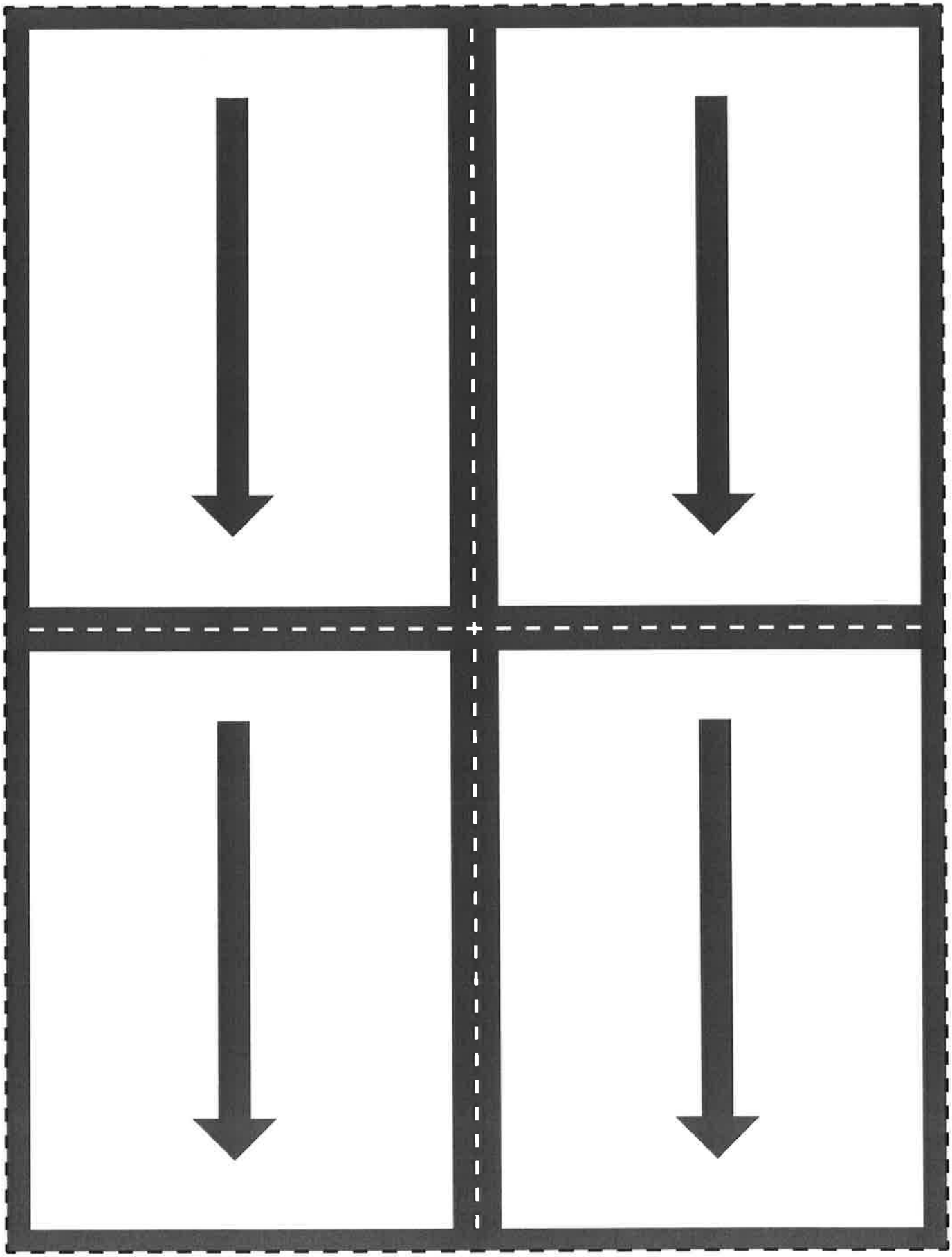

After fertilisation, the dandelion begins to make seeds.



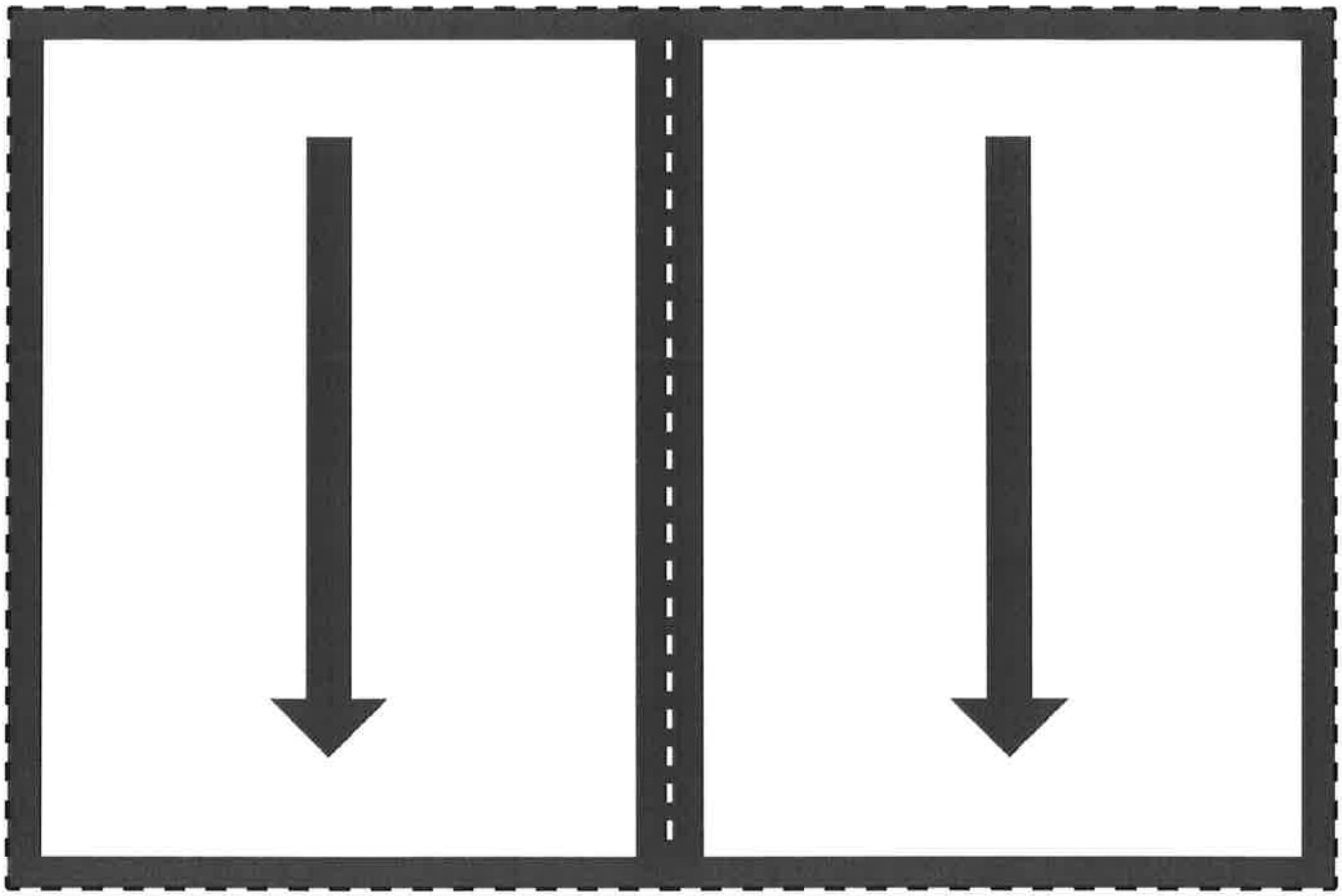

Seeds are dispersed (spread out) so they have room to grow. Dandelion seeds are dispersed by the wind. After seed dispersal, the life cycle starts again.

# The life cycle of a dandelion

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