

Name: _____

Date: _____

Planting Peach Trees

To plant a peach tree you will need: shovel
bare-root peach
tree
fertilizer
water hose
tree stake and
tie

Visit a nursery in the springtime to select a peach tree that is good for your area and take it to the planting spot. Dig a hole more than twice as deep as the tree's roots with the shovel. Mix the fertilizer with the soil from the hole. Make a cone out of the soil in the bottom of the hole so that this will support the tree's roots.

If any roots on the tree are broken, cut them off just above the break. Put the tree into the hole and make sure that the roots make a fan over the cone of soil. The tree should be planted deep enough so the graft, where the young tree is joined to the roots, is two to four inches above the surface of the soil. Add or take out soil until it is just right.

Fill the hole with more of the dirt and fertilizer mixture. When the hole is almost full, fill it with water and let it settle into the soil. Put the support stake in six to ten inches from the trunk and tie the tree to it.

Make sure you water the tree every week. It will soon sprout leaves, but it will take several years before it will produce peaches.

1. If you plant a peach tree this year, how long will it take before you can harvest some peaches?

- A. one year
 - B. one month
 - C. several years
 - D. several months
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2. In which book would you MOST LIKELY find this passage?

- A. *Our Earth*
 - B. *Let's Recycle*
 - C. *Dynamic Roses*
 - D. *Springtime Gardening*
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3. According to the passage, how deep should you dig the hole for the tree?

- A. six to ten feet deep
 - B. two to four inches below ground
 - C. more than two times as deep as the tree's roots
 - D. deep enough to cover just above the broken tree roots
-

4. What will happen if you water the tree every week?

- A. It will grow quickly.
 - B. It will soon sprout leaves.
 - C. It will soon produce seeds.
 - D. It will require more fertilizer.
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5. What is the next step after filling the hole with more of the dirt and fertilizer mixture?

- A. Fill the hole with water.
 - B. Put in the support stake.
 - C. Make a cone out of the soil.
 - D. Cut off the broken tree roots.
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6. What is the MAIN idea of the passage?

- A. how to plant a tree
 - B. fertilizing for fun and profit
 - C. making sure to water your trees
 - D. the fun of visiting a nursery in the spring
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7. What is the stake for?

- A. to eat
 - B. to dig the hole
 - C. to support the tree
 - D. to hold water by the tree
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8. What will happen if you water the tree every week?

- A. It will die.
 - B. It will soon sprout leaves.
 - C. It will soon produce peaches.
 - D. It will soon require more fertilizer.
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9. In which book would you MOST likely find this passage?

- A. *Let's Recycle!*
 - B. *Our Earth*
 - C. *Springtime Gardening*
 - D. *Dynamic Roses*
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10. What is the next step after filling the hole almost to the top with the mixture of dirt and fertilizer?
- A. Make a cone out of the soil.
 - B. Cut off the broken tree roots.
 - C. Fill the hole with water.
 - D. Put in the support stake.

Answer Key

1. C) several years
2. D) *Springtime Gardening*
3. C) more than two times as deep as the tree's roots
4. B) It will soon sprout leaves.
5. A) Fill the hole with water.
6. A) how to plant a tree
7. C) to support the tree
8. B) It will soon sprout leaves.
9. C) *Springtime Gardening*
10. C) Fill the hole with water.