

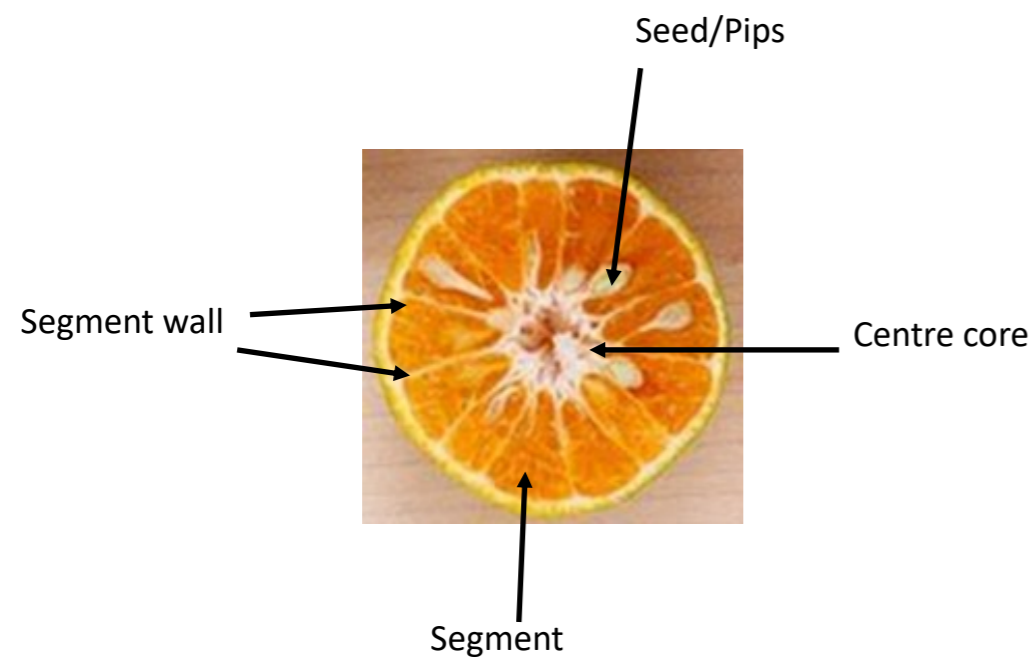
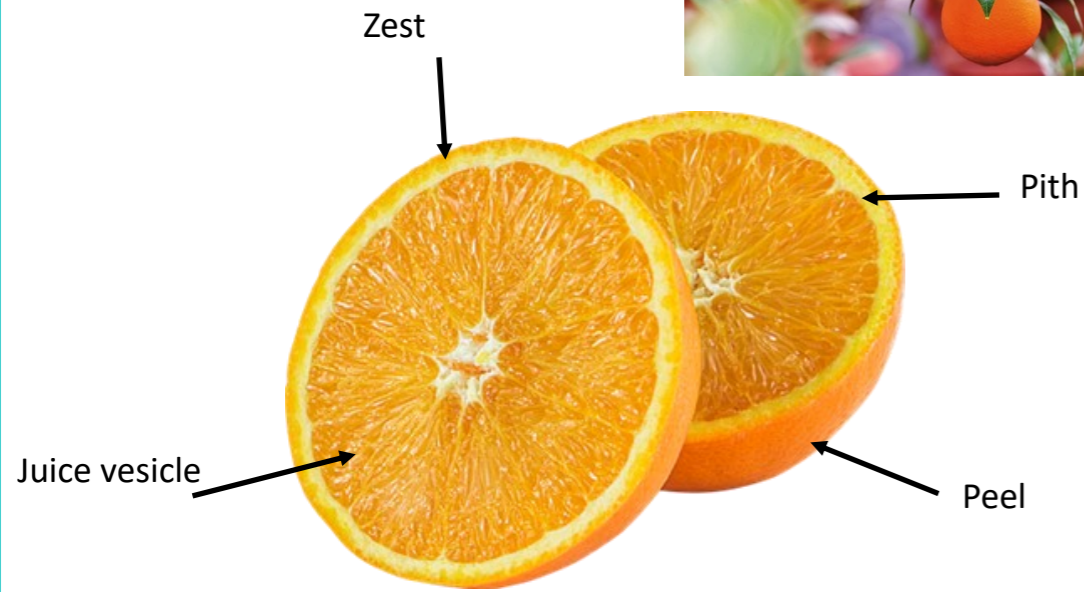


All About Oranges



The orange is the fruit of various citrus species in the family Rutaceae

Inside an Orange



Oranges

An orange has a tough shiny orange skin.

Inside, the fruit is divided into "segments", which have thin tough skins that hold together many little sections with juice inside.

There are usually ten segments in an orange, but sometimes there are more.

Inside each segment of most types of orange there are seeds called "pips".

Orange trees can be grown from pips, but some types of orange trees can only be grown from "cuttings" (a piece cut off a tree and made to grow roots).

The segments and the skin are separated by white stringy fibrous material called "pith".

In most types of oranges, the skin can be peeled off the pith, and the segments can be pulled apart with the fingers to be eaten. In some oranges it is hard to take the skin off. With mandarin oranges, the skin, pith and segments can all be pulled apart very easily. Orange skin is often called "orange peel".

Orange trees are small, evergreen trees.

They can produce as many as 60,000 white blossoms in the spring. The white blossoms have a sweet, orange-like scent



Check out our outstanding orange facts for children:



There are over 600 varieties of oranges in the world.



Oranges are round orange-coloured fruit that grow on a tree which can reach 10 metres (33 ft) high.



Orange trees have dark green shiny leaves and small white flowers with five petals. The flowers smell very sweet which attracts many bees .



The colour orange takes its name from the fruit. The word "orange" is unusual because it is one of only a few English words that does not rhyme with anything.



An orange is a type of citrus fruit which people often eat.



Oranges are a very good source of vitamins, especially vitamin C

Orange juice is an important part of many people's breakfast.



The "sweet orange", which is the kind that are most often eaten today, grew first in Asia but now grows in many parts of the world.



Only about 20 percent of oranges grown are eaten fresh. The rest are used for jams, flavourings and juices.



Orange trees were first grown in china. The Chinese believe that eating pummelos, the largest citrus fruit, brings good luck.



An orange needs 14 gallons or around 50 glasses of water per fruit to grow.



Brazil is the largest producer of oranges, followed by the United States, Mexico, and China.

Products made from oranges

Seville orange marmalade

Marmalade preserves are traditionally made with Seville oranges, which are less sweet. All parts of the fruit are used: the pith and pips (separated and placed in a muslin bag) are boiled in a mixture of juice, slivered peel, sliced-up flesh, sugar, and water to extract their pectin, which helps the conserve to set.



Fresh Orange juice is obtained by squeezing the fruit. This can be made at home or, on a much larger scale, industrially. Brazil is the largest producer of orange juice in the world, followed by the United States.



Frozen orange juice concentrate and lollies are made from freshly squeezed and filtered orange juice.



Sweet orange oil is a by-product of the juice industry produced by pressing the peel. It is used for flavouring food and drinks and also in the perfume industry and aromatherapy for its fragrance.



Orange oil can be used to make soap

Orange peel is used by gardeners as a slug repellent.

