

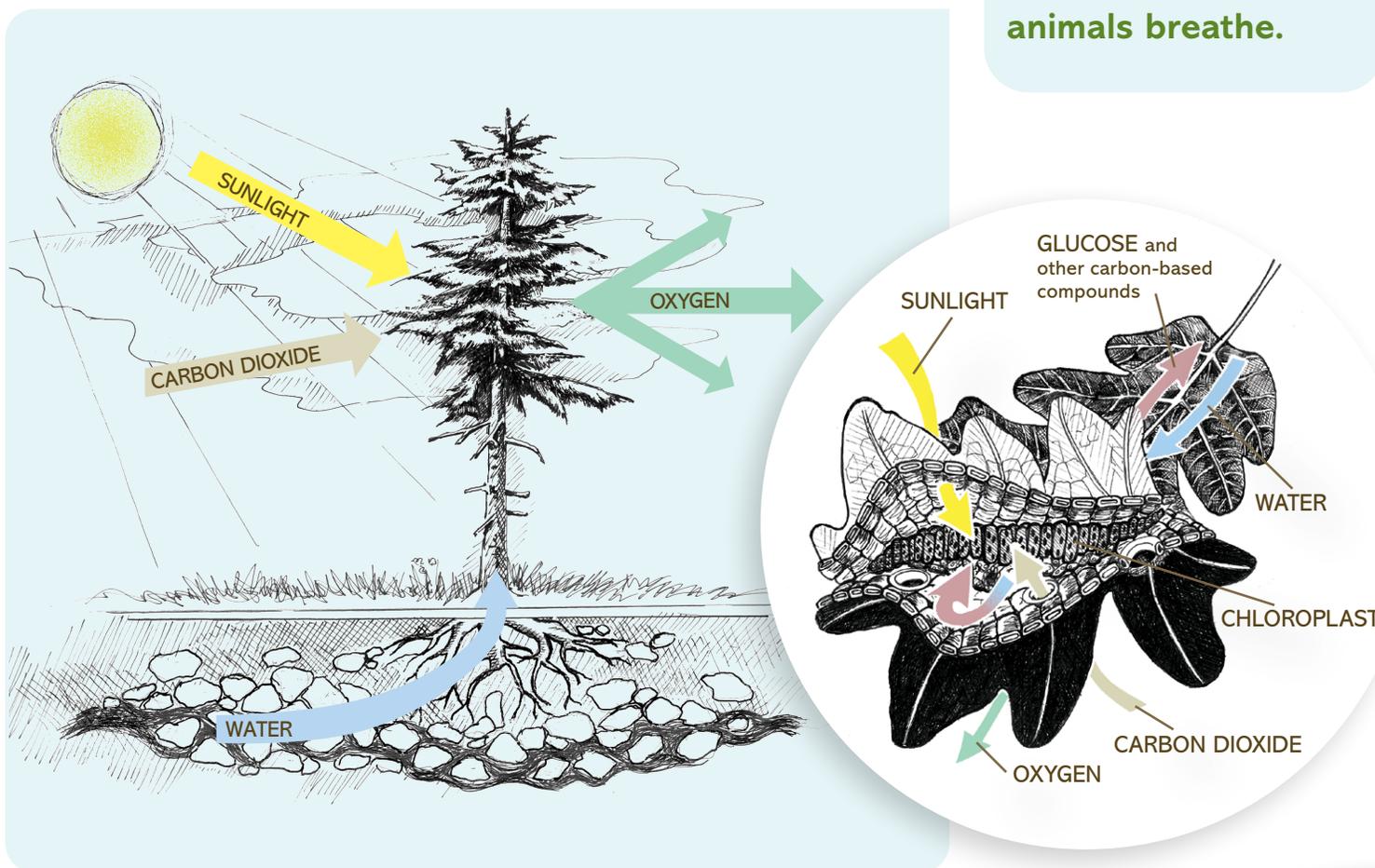
HOW DOES PHOTOSYNTHESIS WORK?

Photosynthesis is a natural process by which green trees and plants use energy from the sun to make the food they need to live and grow. In the process, trees pull carbon out of the atmosphere and turn it into wood and other plant tissues (roots, leaves, bark), while continuously releasing oxygen.

Here's how it works in most plants: Roots absorb water and minerals from the soil and transport them to the plant's needles or leaves. At the same time, the needles and leaves absorb carbon dioxide from the air. These raw materials flow to plant cells that contain chloroplasts, which hold chlorophyll. Chlorophyll uses energy from the sun to transform carbon dioxide and water into carbon-based compounds such as glucose (a sugar that helps the plant grow). This process creates leftover oxygen that gets released into the atmosphere.



Photosynthesis provides most of the **OXYGEN** that humans and animals breathe.



About the Oregon Forest Resources Institute

The Oregon Forest Resources Institute supports the forest sector and the stewardship of natural resources by advancing Oregonians' understanding of the social, environmental and economic benefits of our forests.

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