

# Dandelion

## Habitat Hero

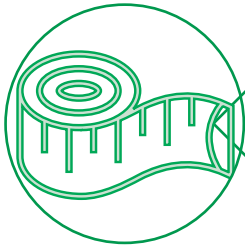


**Common Name:** Dandelion  
**Irish Name:** Caisearbhán  
**Scientific Name:** *Taraxacum vulgaria*

### Seen in Ireland:

Flower: March – October

Fruit: April – October



Size: Can grow up to 30cm tall.



Habitat (where it lives): Dandelions are very common in any grassland area; you can find them on roadsides, gardens, school grounds, grassy wasteland and fields.

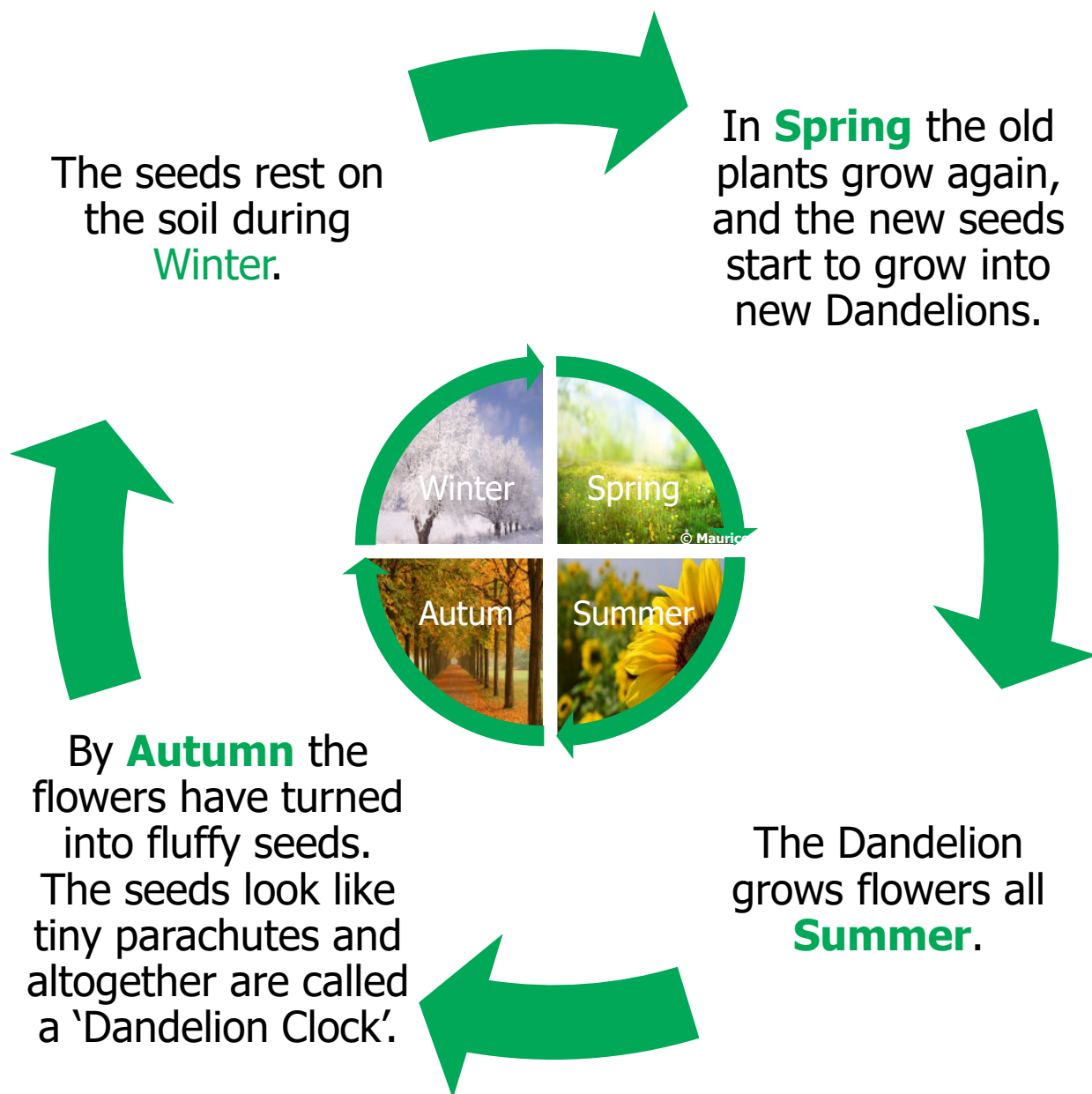


Diet: Dandelions need soil, water and air, so they can turn sunlight into food and energy to grow



Life: dandelions can live 10 to 13 years if left alone. Dandelion seeds can live on soil for 3 months, but if buried, some seeds can live for 5 years.

# Dandelion Life Cycle



# Dandelion

## Some more Facts:

- Dandelion is a common plant with bright yellow flowers and with hollow stems full of sticky white sap.
- The flower heads are 2-5cm across.
- Once they have received pollen from their own or another dandelion flower, they produce seeds.
- This is when they change into a 'Jenny Joes' head or a 'Dandelion Clock'; these are spheres of mini-parachutes, each one attached to a tiny seed.
- The leaves are long and narrow and have a distinctive jagged edged pattern.
- The leaves of the Dandelion are responsible for the flower's name which comes from 'Dents de lion' meaning 'Lion's teeth' in French.
- The Dandelion is a pretty clever plant!
- Its mini-parachutes are perfectly designed to carry seeds away on the wind.
- This means baby plants, that grow from the seeds, will not be growing in the shadow of their parent!

