

Intensive and Extensive Green Roofs

The New School

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A fun and interactive way to introduce green roofs to 5th and 6th graders!

*Created based on NYS Science standards

What are intensive and extensive Green Roofs?

The two most common green roofs are **intensive** and **extensive**. An intensive green roof system is characterized by its variety of vegetation, deeper soil depth, and requires more maintenance. While extensive roofs typically have a soil depth of less than 6 inches, are limited in plant species options, are lightweight, and are low maintenance. Intensive green roofs offer a great potential for design and biodiversity. Green roofs are made up of 5 different layers that each serve a different purpose. The layers are the **waterproof/root repellent layer, drainage layer, filter membrane, growing medium, and vegetation.**

Draw your favorite flower/plant: (Show it to your classmate when you're done)

**Fill in each of the vocabulary words with the correct letters:
(Practice spelling the word below it)**

1. I_ten_ive G_ _ _ n R_ _ _

2. E_te_sive G_ _ _ n R_ of

3. _ ead _ _

4. F_ arm

5. Se_u _

6. Ve_ _ tat_ _ _

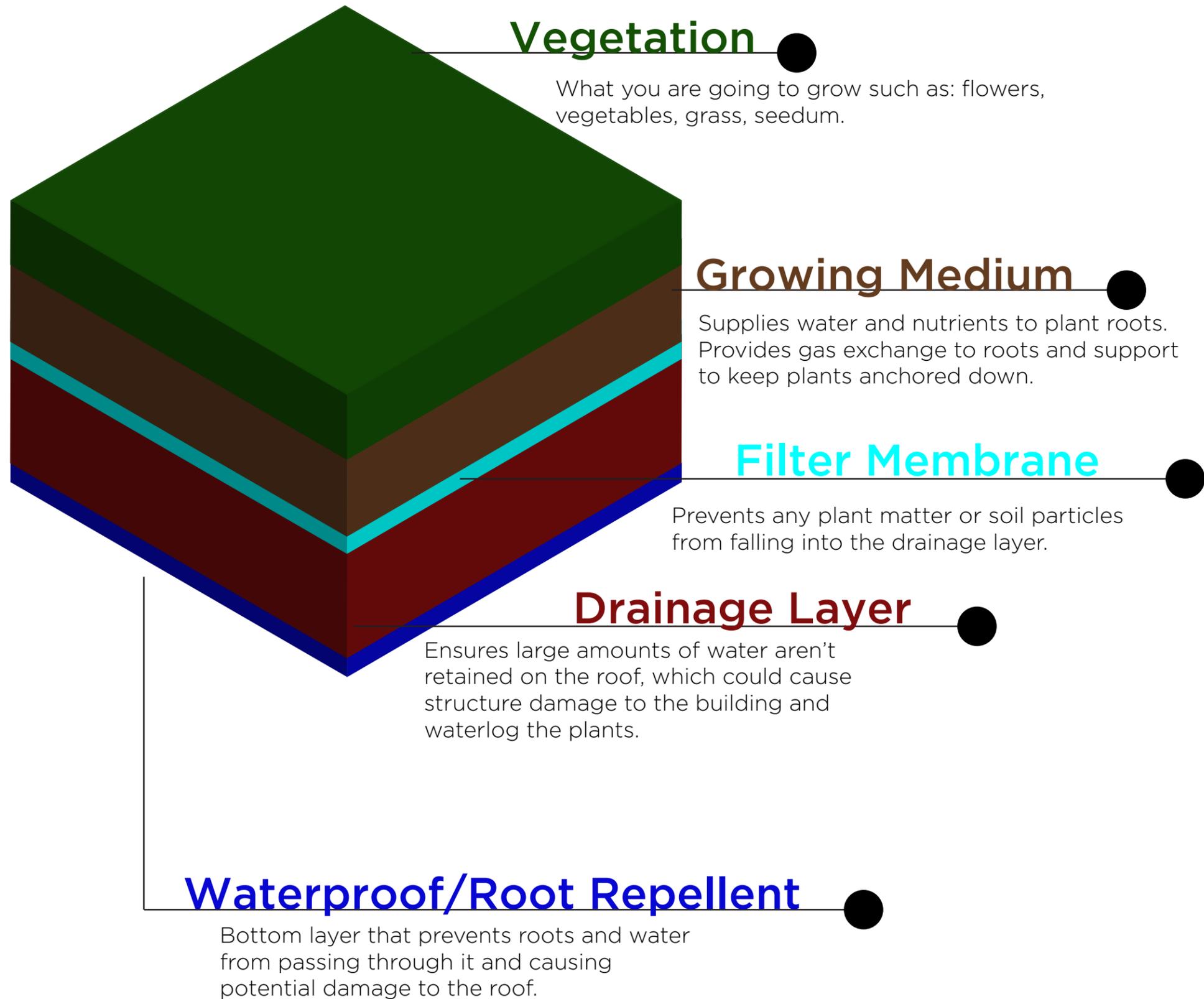
7. Gr _ wing Med _ _ _

8. Fil_ _ _ Mem _ _ _ ne

9. Dra_n_ _ _ Lay _ _

10. Wa _ _ _ pro _ _ La_ _ e _

11. Root R_ _ _ _ ll _ _ _ Layer



Multiple Choice Questions

In the picture below:



1. Green roofs are harmful for the environment

- a. true
- b. false

2. What does the drainage layer do in a green roof?

- a. true
- b. makes sure water does not retain on the roof
- c. collects rain water

Reflection Questions:

1. What is the difference between an intensive and extensive green roof?

2. What are some of the different uses for green roofs?

3. What are the different layers of a green roof?

4. Do you think you would like to visit a green roof in the future?