



MIGHTY MOSS AND LIVELY LICHEN

DID YOU KNOW?




ABSORBANT PLANTS
Mosses like Sphagnum can hold up to 20 times their weight in water!

ANCIENT PLANTS
Mosses are over 400 million years old! A group of mosses called Takakia has survived since the dinosaurs and continues to thrive today.

DIVERSE SPECIES
There are over 12,000 species of moss and 20,000 species of lichen identified so far worldwide!

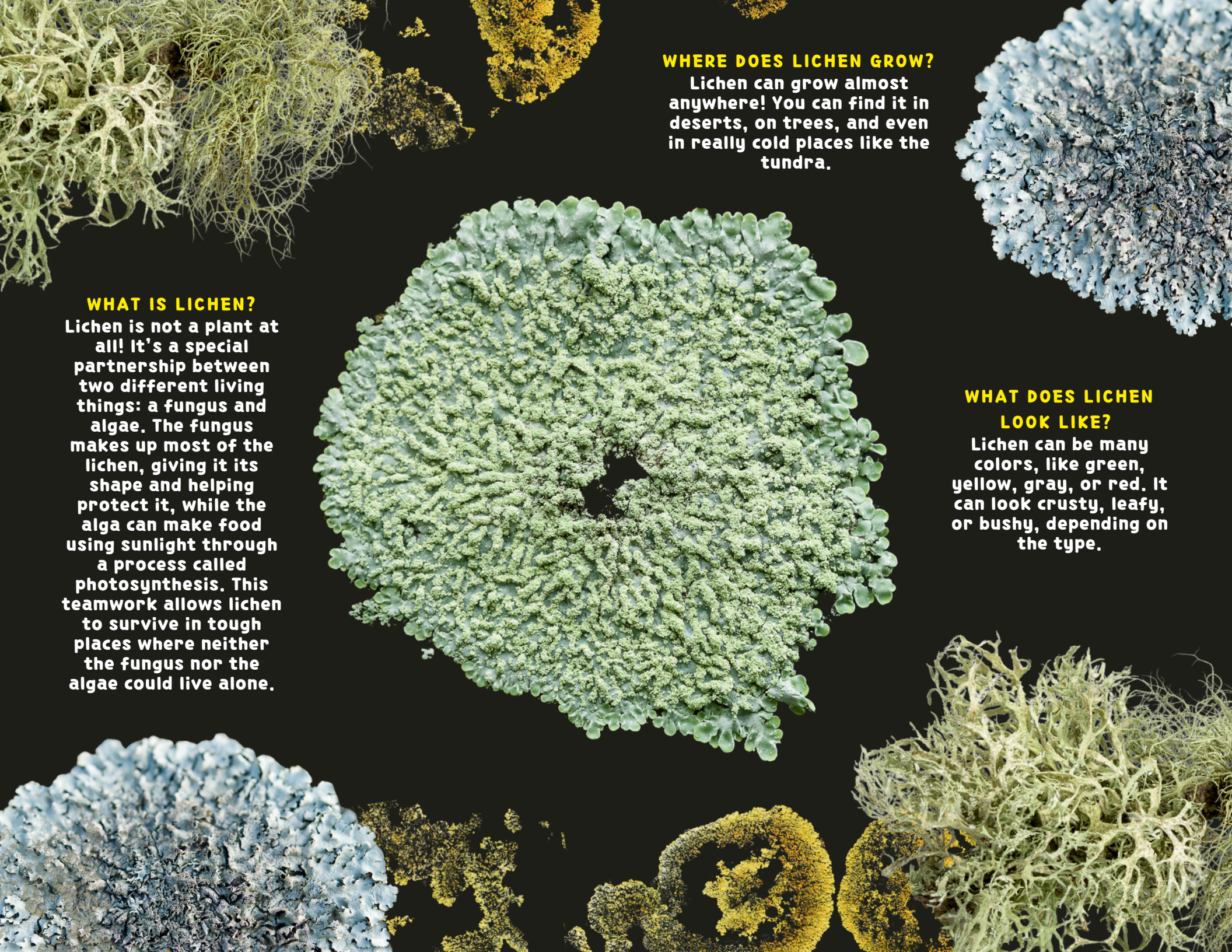




WHERE DOES MOSS GROW?
Moss loves to grow in damp, shady spots like forest floors, on rocks, and even on walls or rooftops. It thrives in places with a lot of water, like in foggy areas.

WHAT IS MOSS?
Moss is a tiny green plant that grows on surfaces like rocks, soil, and trees. It is a non-vascular plant, which means it doesn't have lignin, a strong material that helps bigger plants stand tall. Because of this, moss stays small. It can soak up water and nutrients directly from the air around it, and if it dries out, it can puff back up when it gets wet again!

WHAT DOES MOSS LOOK LIKE?
Moss is usually bright green and looks soft and fluffy. It often forms little mats or cushions on the ground or on other surfaces.



WHERE DOES LICHEN GROW?

Lichen can grow almost anywhere! You can find it in deserts, on trees, and even in really cold places like the tundra.

WHAT IS LICHEN?

Lichen is not a plant at all! It's a special partnership between two different living things: a fungus and algae. The fungus makes up most of the lichen, giving it its shape and helping protect it, while the alga can make food using sunlight through a process called photosynthesis. This teamwork allows lichen to survive in tough places where neither the fungus nor the algae could live alone.

WHAT DOES LICHEN LOOK LIKE?

Lichen can be many colors, like green, yellow, gray, or red. It can look crusty, leafy, or bushy, depending on the type.

**WHERE HAVE
YOU SEEN THEM
GROWING?**



ON TREES



ON ROOFS

ON ROCKS



BETWEEN TILE

