



Apples



Reading Made Simple



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Apples



It is winter. The apple tree is resting. It has no leaves.



In Spring, the leaves begin to grow.
They get bigger and bigger.



In Spring, apple trees have blossom. Some have pink blossom and others have white blossom.

The flowers start as tight buds. The buds begin to open until the tree is a mass of flowers.



The bees visit the flowers to gather nectar.

They poll-in-ate them.

The pollen from one flower sticks to the bee's fur. When the bee visits the next flower, some of the pollen rubs off on to it. This means that apples can grow from that flower.



A tiny apple starts to grow at the bottom of the flowers that have been pollinated. By the Summer, small apples are starting to form. These grow bigger and bigger until they are ripe.



Apple starting
to grow.



In Autumn we can pick the apples. They are ready to eat.

Some fall off the tree onto the ground as 'fallers'.

Insects, animals and birds eat the fallers.

We can eat the good apples.



Inside the apple are the seeds.

If these seeds fall into good soil they will grow. What will they grow in to?

Yes! They will grow into apple trees.

They will make more of their own kind.



Seed



Then the leaves fall off the tree.

Its work is over for another year.

In winter the tree has a rest again. It has been working very hard! It might look dead, but it isn't! It is too cold and the days are short to do any work.



Here are some words that are used in this book.

Can you read them?

nectar (nec-ter)

A sweet, sticky reward for the insect as it visits the flowers.

pollinate (poll-in-ate)

The pollen from one flower sticks to the bee's fur. When the bee visits the next flower, some of the pollen rubs off on to it. When this happens we say that the flower has been pollinated.