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STUDY MATERIAL SCIENCE

CLASS-VII

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► 8. Reproduction in plants

Fruit and Seed Formation :

After the fertilisation, the ovary grows into the fruit and the ovule develops into the seeds. The outer parts of the flower, i.e. petals, sepals and stamen become dry and fall off. Stigma and style also fall off leaving ovary on the receptacle. The zygote inside the ovary gets its food from the ovule and grows by cell division to form an embryo.

Parts of the ovule develop into seed covering or seed coat.

Fruits are the ripened ovary of a flower. Which protect the seed. Some fruits are fleshy and juicy, e.g. mango, apple and orange, while some are hard like almonds and walnuts.

Seed Dispersal :

Seeds are developed from the ovule. Seeds contain an embryo enclosed in a protective seed coat. Plants produce a large number of seeds. When these seeds fall down, they start growing. If a large number of seeds falls on the same place, they will not get enough space for water and light, and will not develop into a healthy plant. Thus, the seeds are moved away by some external agencies to far off places.

The process by which the seeds are scattered to different places (far and wide from their parents) is called **dispersal**. The seeds and fruits are dispersed away through various agencies like wind, water, birds and some animals. Sometime seed dispersal takes place naturally by the explosion or bursting of fruits