

ROOTS, STEMS, LEAVES SONG!

(By the Banana Slug String Band)

Slowly teach the students hand motions while singing the melody to the chorus:

- **Roots:** Squat with fingers spread like roots
- **Stem:** Stand with arms to side
- **Leaves:** Hands up making your body a Y
- **Flower:** Bring arms together in a circle above your head
- **Fruit:** Make a small circle in front of your face with your hands
- **Seeds:** Bring your hands down in front of you while wiggling fingers to illustrate falling seeds

Also teach the following lyrics as a call and response

Call: "That's six parts!"

Response: "Six Parts!"

After the chorus students can also fun saying "yeah" in a bluesy voice.

I highly recommend sing the chorus several times with students after the song is over, getting faster and faster with each repetition. When they are left hyper with excitement, say you are going to sing the chorus one last time slowly to make sure everyone knows all the motions. This time end the song whispering the call and response. Repeat slowly and softly as necessary until children return to a manageable energy level.

(Chorus)

Roots, stems, leaves, flowers,
Fruits and seeds

Roots, stems, leaves, flowers,
Fruits and seeds

Roots, stems, leaves, flowers,
Fruits and seeds

Roots, stems, leaves, flowers,
Fruits and seeds

That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.



The roots hold the plant
in the ground.
They gather up the water
that falls around.
And there's a root inside of me,
because a carrot is a root that I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.



A stem is an elevator growing up from
the ground.
The water goes up and the
sugar back down.
And there's a stem inside of me
because celery is a stem that I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.



The leaves are the kitchens
where the food is done.
They breath the air and
catch rays from the sun.
And there's a leaf inside of me
because **lettuce is a leaf** that I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.

(Chorus...)

The flowers are dressed so colorfully.
They hold the pollen and
attract the bees.
And there's a flower inside of me
because cauliflower is a flower I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.



The fruit gets ripe, then falls on down.
It holds the seeds and feeds the ground.
And there's a fruit inside of me
because an apple is a fruit that I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts



that plants and people need.

The seeds get buried in the earth
The song starts again with the new plant's birth
And there's a seed inside of me
because sunflower is a seed that I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.

Now you know what this
whole world needs.
It's roots, stems, leaves, flowers,
fruits and seeds.
There's six plant parts inside of me
because a garden salad is what I eat.
That's six parts, six parts, six plant parts
that plants and people need.

