

PROBE

VOL. 7 No. 2

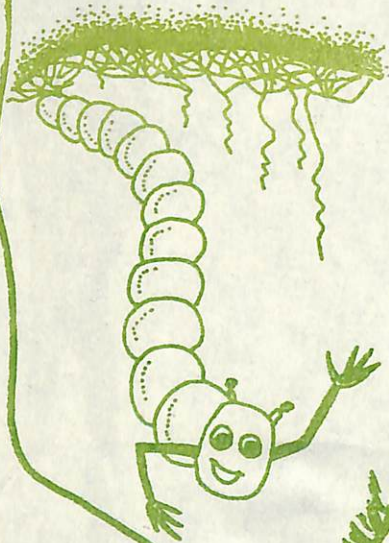
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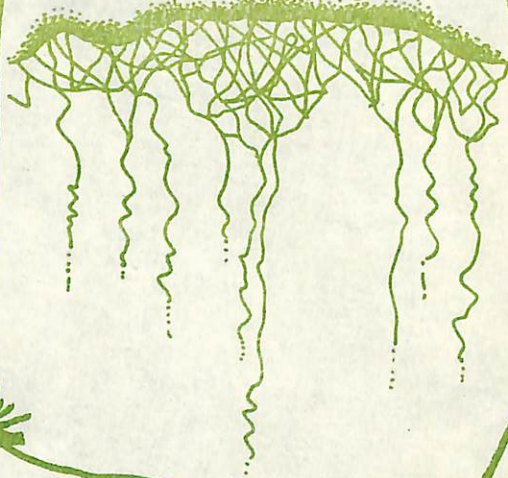
GLOW-WORMS

Let's have a look at Gary
Glow-worm, at home in
his cave!

Hi! I'm Gary,
and I live on the
roof of this cave. It's
nice and dark in here,
just how I like it!



I spin a web
of silk, which hangs
from the roof in long
strands. These strands
catch my dinner!



Some of my relatives live
in famous glow-worm caves,
like Waitomo caves in New
Zealand.



Glow-worms live in caves. They have special
parts to their bodies, which light up in the
dark. They do this to help them catch their
food.

My light
makes little
insects drop
in for a visit.
Then they get
tangled in my web.



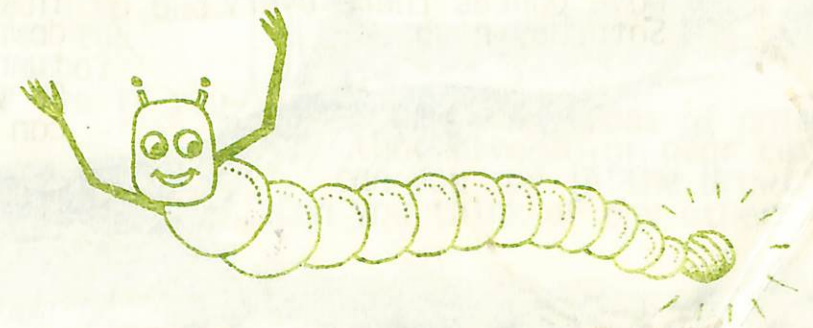
I lift my
dinner up to the
roof on the web
like a fishing
line.



But I have
to watch
out too,
or I may
become
a main
course!



Glow worms can
actually "flash" their
lights on and off, when they want
to!



CAVE IN

Not all caves are dark, damp and scary. There are "daylight" caves which are like large tunnels, which you can go and visit. The largest of these tunnels is found at Abercrombie Caves in N.S.W. near the town of Bathurst. "King Solomon's Cave" is the main cave, and there are guided tours through it. A stream runs underground through the cave carrying alluvial gold. Do you know what sort of gold this is?

The entrance to the cave has a huge rock roof which is about 80 metres across from one side to the other with nothing holding it up!

The cave has rock shapes inside called STALACTITES, STALAGMITES and HELECTITES. These often make strange shapes, like lions, horses and even plum puddings!

These rock shapes can be seen in the water of the stream, making magical pictures of cities, towns and buildings for you to look at.

The cave has an old stage built inside it by some local shearers over 100 years ago. They used to have dances there every Saturday night.

The cave is terrific to make echoes in and sometimes you can be heard up and down the valley at either end of the tunnel. Have you ever made an echo? Do you know how they are made? See if you can find out!

The STALACTITES hang from the roof, and the STALAGMITES grow from the floor of the cave. When they join together they form a column, which is as strong as cement. In these caves you can also see HELECTITES, which grow sideways out of the stalactites. These are thin and spidery to look at.

How many types of animals that live in or near caves can you spy in the drawings? Can you think of any others?

By
M. Roberts

Celery Science

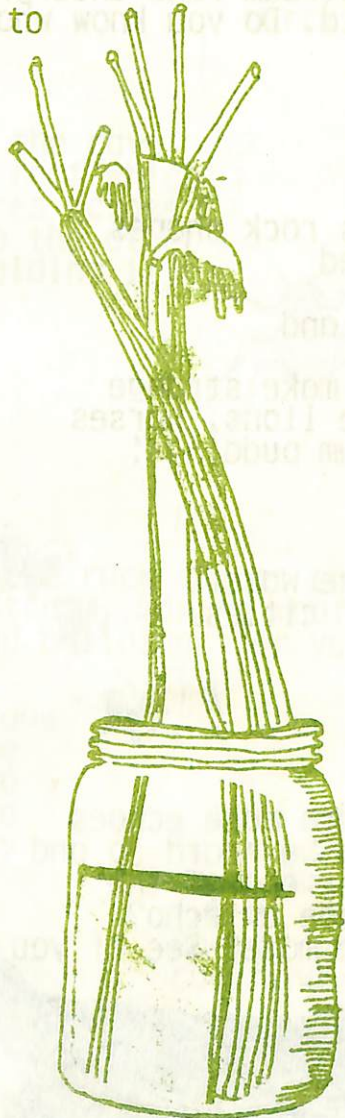
How does water get into the leaves of plants?
We can find out the answer to this question by trying an experiment.

You will need:

Water
Glass jar
Colored ink or water paint.
A few sticks of celery

What to do:
Put the ink, water and celery into the glass jar. After a day or two, watch the stem of the celery, to see what the colored water is doing

Can you see how the water gets into the leaves of a plant now?



a glass of grass

Plants are very important to us, because they are the food that animals eat. We eat quite a few plants - fruit and vegetables - but we still need those plants we don't eat. We all like an icy - cold glass of milk but without grass, we wouldn't have our milk.

Think about why this might be

The cows eat the grass and inside their bodies turn it into milk for us to drink. Plants provide food for birds and animals which provide food for us. This is called a food chain.

AUTUMN

- * Soak some leaves in water, so you can see their veins more clearly
- * Put a piece of paper over the rough side of a leaf, rub it with a crayon, and watch a print of the leaf appear
- * Put a number of leaves between 2 sheets of waxed paper. Ask an adult to help you iron over the sheets gently. The wax will stick together and the leaves will be held in shape. See how many interesting designs you can make.

IDEAS

AMAZE-ing !



CAN you help Gloria Glow-worm find
her way back to her cave?