

Figure 23 The trembling aspen tree reproduces from its roots.



Figure 23 shows an example of plant reproduction using roots. The trembling aspen forest you see here is actually a single individual. The roots of this one tree produced shoots that grew into the thousands of trees in this forest.

Sexual Reproduction

There are three forms of sexual reproduction in the plant kingdom: reproduction by means of flowers, reproduction by means of cones and reproduction by means of spores.

These forms of reproduction have been added to the classification of the plant kingdom in Figure 24.

Conifers and flowering plants produce seeds, whereas ferns, algae and mosses produce spores.

A seed contains everything it needs to produce a new plant. First, it carries a small immature plant called an embryo. It also consists of food reserves (the cotyledon) and a protective covering called the seed coat (see Figure 33 on page 249).

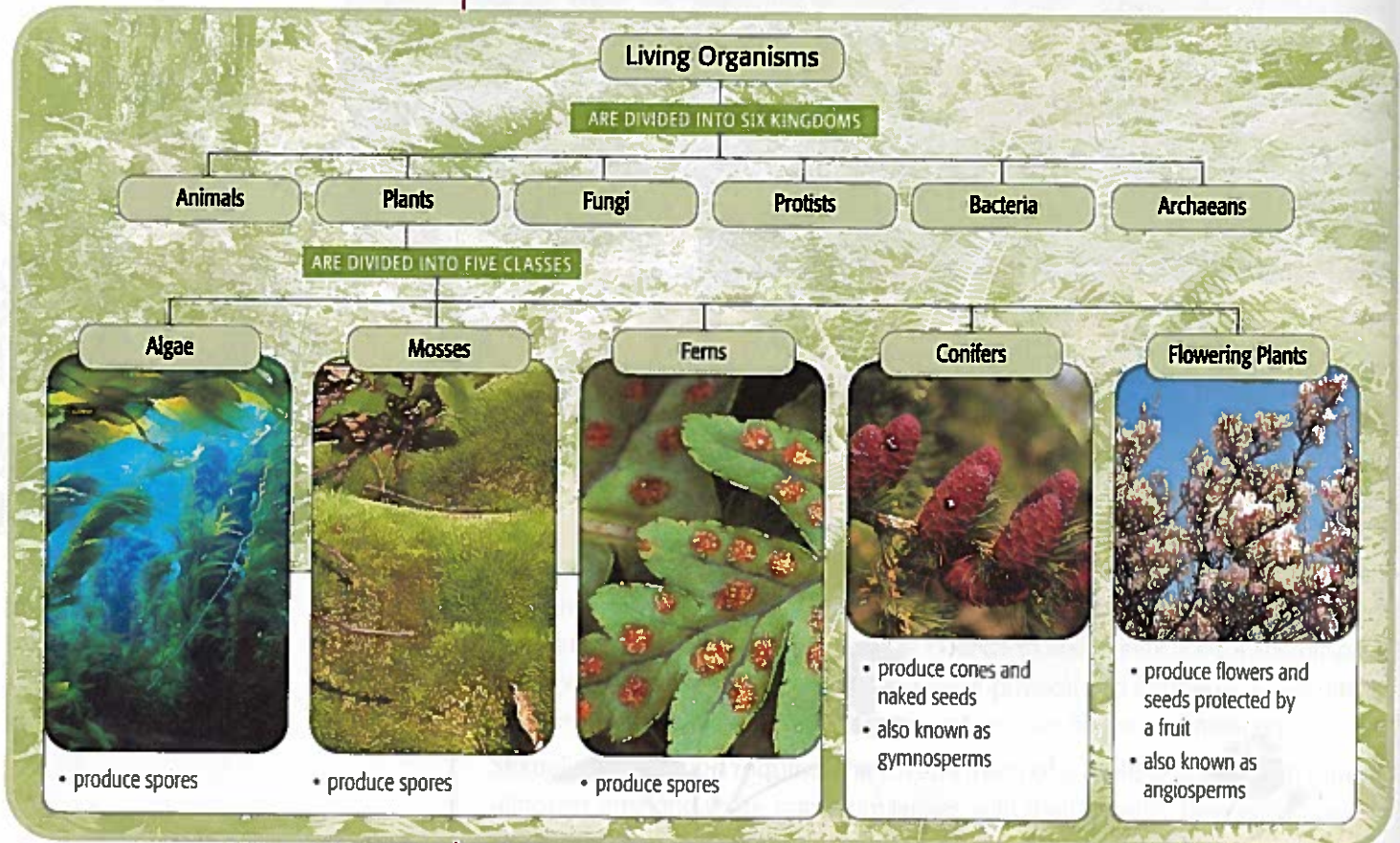


Figure 24 Forms of reproduction in the plant kingdom