## **Sunflowers**

by Mimi Jorling



A sunflower is a big, circular, yellow flower. Sunflowers need a lot of sun to grow. Sunflowers are actually made up of lots and lots of tiny flowers. The center part is made of one kind of flower, and the petals around it are another kind of flower.

We use sunflowers in different ways. One thing we do with them is look at them! Many people add them to gardens because they are so big, bright, and colorful. They can also be cut and brought inside. They will last a long time in a vase. A vase is a jar, bottle, or other container that is used to hold flowers.

Sunflower seeds are good to eat. People, birds, and other animals, including squirrels and chipmunks, love to eat sunflower seeds. They can be difficult to eat if they are still in their shells, but they are filled with protein and are good for you! Sunflower seeds also have a lot of oil in them. It can be squeezed out and collected. Many people use sunflower oil for cooking.

Sunflowers are pretty flowers, and they give us and other animals food. Be careful of the stems, though-they are rough and very scratchy!