How Does An Apple Grow?

Resting
Trees need to rest in the winter. This gives them time to store up energy. It’s like a ‘nap’, to rest and regenerate.

Pruning
We prune trees in the winter. This removes extra branches that are not needed to bear fruit.

Grafting
To start NEW trees, we graft new stock onto an older, stronger base of a tree. The base already has strong roots and gives the new stock a good start.

Blossoming
When Spring comes and it starts to get warmer, buds appear followed by beautiful and fragrant pink blossoms. Each variety has a bloom that is a little bit different.

Growing
New trees take 4-5 years to grow before they make apples.

Pollinating
Bees and other pollinators smell the flowers and find them to drink the nectar in the flower. This is used to make their honey. Their legs brush up against the pollen on the flower. When they fly to the next one, pollen from the anthers is left on the stigma. This pollinates the seeds which begins growing and forms an apple.

Young Apples
Soon the apples begin to grow. You can see where the blossom used to be on the end of the apple. The seeds in the ovary began to swell and grow the apple. (There are 10-12 seeds) Look for the blossom end next time you eat an apple!

Eating Apples
Eating them is the best part! Do you like them right from the tree or do you like to help cook and bake with an adult? Visit our website for more information, recipes and activities

Enjoy your apples in pies, cakes, or apple crisp, as applesauce, apple juice or cider, for snacking out of your hand, and so many more ways!
Fun Facts About Apples

They can be... red, green, yellow, pink, or striped!

Apples are... crisp, firm, sweet, tangy, juicy!

Welcome to Our Orchards!

Did you know?

There are over 60 orchards in Connecticut!

Visit a Connecticut orchard and get fresh, local apples! Some orchards have “pick your own” apples. You can have fun with your family and learn how apples grow. Fresh, delicious, local apples can be found all over CT. Nothing tastes better than a crisp, ripe apple right from the tree!

Find an orchard near you on our website CTApples.org

Icons under each orchard will tell you what they do and when they are open.

There are recipes, activities, coloring sheets, and you can learn more about apple varieties in Connecticut.

Our phone app helps you find orchards and special things to do right from your phone, wherever you are!

Website

Phone App