# **The Shoot**

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The part of the plant that grows above the soil is called the shoot.

#### Parts of the Shoot:

- Stem
- Branches
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Fruits

#### The Stem

The main part of the shoot.

Grows branches, leaves, flowers, and fruits.

# **Types of Stems:**

- Soft stem → Found in plants like banana.
- Hard stem (trunk) → Found in mango and banyan trees.

## **Functions of Stems**

## **Support:**

Makes the plant stand upright.

## **Transport of Water and Nutrients:**

Carries water and nutrients from the roots to the rest of the plant.

#### **Food Transport:**

Moves food made by leaves to all parts of the plant.

## **Food Storage in Stem:**

Sugarcane  $\rightarrow$  Stores food in the stem.

# Underground stems that store food:

- Onion
- Potato
- Ginger

# **Tip for Students:**

Shoot = Above soil → Includes stem, branches, leaves, flowers, and fruits.

**Stem functions** = Support + Transport + Food storage