

# Pears

## How do pears grow?

Pears are a fruit that grows on trees. Pears are similar to apples because they have small seeds and grow on trees. They are shaped like teardrops. In Ontario we grow five major varieties of pears; Bartlett (the most popular), Clapp's Favourite, Anjou, Bosc, and Flemish Beauty. Pear trees grow to about 10-25 metres high.

Most fruits are picked off the tree when they are ripe (ready to eat), but pears are picked off the tree a little early, while they are still green and hard. They continue to ripen after they are picked.



## Did you know?

- Pears belong to the rose family. Raspberries and blackberries are also in this family
- Canada is a pear innovator! We invented the Cold Snap Pear. This is a pear that grows later in the fall and had a longer shelf life. This means that we can eat Cold Snap Pears grown in Ontario in the middle of winter!
- Renaissance painters often used pears as a subject for their art!

## Joke Corner

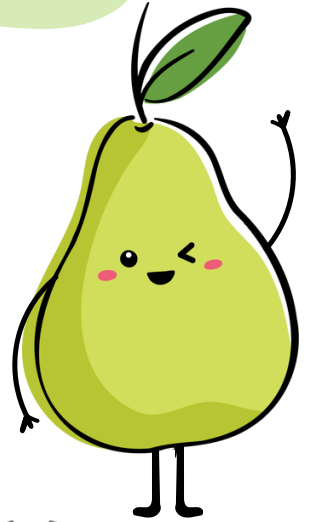
- What do you call a fruity pop star? Katy Pear-y!
- Where do fruits go on vacation? Pear-is!
- What do you call a run in with a fruity ghost? A Pear-anormal experience

## Map it out!

In Canada, pears are most commonly grown in areas that don't have a very cold winter. This includes Okanagan Valley in British Columbia, Southern Ontario, and Nova Scotia.

**Hello! I'm Paulie Pear!**

On the map of Canada can you find where you live and mark it with a star? Next, find the areas pears are grown in Canada and colour those areas green!



## Where did pears come from?

Pears first came from eastern Asia or China. They are thousands of years old and there are over 3000 varieties!

Pears were one of the first fruits to be brought to North America from Europe. In the United States, pear trees were growing over 350 years ago!

