

*“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap  
but by the seeds you plant.”*

Robert Louis Stevenson



For hundreds of millions of years, plants have been implementing ingenious stratagems to make it possible for their offspring to liberate themselves and disperse. Over generations, they have perfected their design, optimized the relationship between form and function, and given birth to an enormous diversity of seeds and fruits. Encapsulated in a fleshy berry, a pod, a hull, or fitted out with ingenious appendages, seeds seize every opportunity and sometimes combine several tactics to set out on their remarkable, epic journeys.

Take a close look at their inventiveness—seeds are an endless source of wonder!

Se

eds

Nature's Intrepid  
Miracles

Cruschi-form

PRESTEL

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# with just a puff of air

Light and tiny, these seeds are bona fide conquistadors. The air is their ally: a simple puff is enough to carry them off to new countries they can colonize. Wearing a petticoat, a plume, or a parachute, the numerous representatives of this miniature society are full of tricks!

## 1. ARTICHOKE

*Cynara cardunculus* • x 4

You eat the base of the artichoke flower before it sets seed.

## 2. CLEMATIS

*Clematis flammula* • x 4

Its delicate plume is used as a sail as it meanders about the countryside.

## 3. PLANE TREE

*Platanus acerifolia* • x 4,5

Pranksters know that its hairy seed is an awesome itching powder.

## 4. ST. JOHN'S WORT

*Hypericum sp.* • x 43

Smaller than a grain of sand, this seed takes advantage of the slightest breeze.

## 5. STAR CLOVER

*Trifolium stellatum* • x 20

Elegant and graceful, the seed dances like a ballerina on the wind.

## 6. WHITE CAMPION

*Silene latifolia* • x 27

This feral night owl is so discreet that its dispersal often goes unnoticed.



