Here Comes the Sun

Watch out, gecko!
The sun is rising over the desert.
The sand is about to heat up.
Here Comes the Sun

Explore Earth
The sun shines in the day. It warms the land. It heats the sand.
The top of the sand gets too hot to stand on. What will the gecko do?
The gecko digs a hole. It moves into the hole. Now, the gecko is under some sand.
The sand blocks the sun. It blocks the heat. It keeps the gecko cool while the sun shines.
Plant for
Meet Felix. When he was nine years old, he had a big idea. He wanted kids to plant trees around the world.
Felix learned about a gas. We put the gas in the air with our cars, airplanes, and buildings. It pollutes Earth.

The gas is called carbon dioxide (CO$_2$).

**pollute:** to make land, water, or air dirty and not safe to use
Felix read that trees can help. Trees take in the gas to make food. They store the gas in their wood. This helps clean the air.
Felix shared his big idea. He told kids at his school. Soon, they planted their first tree. They started a group called Plant-for-the-Planet.
Felix went to other schools. He talked about planting trees. Those kids planted trees, too. Plant-for-the-Planet spread.
Today, many kids are part of Plant-for-the-Planet. They live around the world. The kids work with adults to plant trees.
Felix and the kids planted trees around the world. Now, they have a new goal. They will plant even more trees to help planet Earth.
Meet Nora. She digs in the ground. She gets very dirty. She gets very hot. And she loves it. Why does Nora dig?
Nora is an archaeologist. She finds ancient things made by people. They help her learn how people lived long ago.
Nora looks for ancient cities. Most are buried under the ground. Nora finds a place to dig. Then she works with a team.

"Ancient" means very old. The pyramids in Egypt are ancient.
Nora and her team dig with picks. They use shovels, brushes, and other tools, too. They work slowly.
Nora is careful not to miss something small. She found this tiny coin. She found this pottery. Pottery is important to Nora.
Nora learns from the pottery. She learns how old it is. She learns how people used it. People ate and drank from this pottery.
Nora loves her job. She finds ancient things. She learns how people lived long ago.
Plant a Tree for Earth Day

Look at the picture. Then circle the word that completes each sentence.

Today is Earth Day.
My family planted a ______ in a park.  flower / tree
It was a ______ day.
We brought a ______ to dig.
Planting trees ______ Earth.
We had lots of ______.

Answers: sunny, shovel, helps, fun