

Review Characteristics of Living Things

How to use: Print first for the main practice. Then use the device to repeat activities and save progress.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1 Identify the characteristics of living things
- 2 Sort objects as living or nonliving
- 3 Name the six signs of life

MINI LESSON

Look around you — some things are alive and some are not. But how do scientists tell the difference?

What living things do

- Living things grow and change over time.
- Example: A tiny seed grows into a tall sunflower.
- They need food, water, and air to survive.

Six signs of life

- All living things grow, move, breathe, eat, reproduce (make babies), and respond to the world around them.
- A thing must show ALL six signs to be considered living.

Nonliving things

- Nonliving things do NOT grow on their own, breathe, eat, or reproduce.
- Some nonliving things — like a wooden table — came FROM a living thing, but they are no longer alive.

Tricky cases

- Water and air are nonliving — but living things need them to survive.
- A dead leaf was once living but is now nonliving.

VOCABULARY

Living	Shows all six signs of life — grows, moves, breathes, eats, reproduces, and responds <i>e.g. dog, sunflower, frog</i>
Nonliving	Does not grow, breathe, eat, or reproduce on its own <i>e.g. rock, pencil, chair</i>
Organism	Any living thing — from a tiny bacterium to a tall tree or a large whale <i>e.g. a plant, an animal, a fungus</i>
Reproduce	To make offspring or seeds, so the species continues <i>e.g. a hen laying an egg, a flower making seeds</i>

Living or Nonliving?

+

Living



sunflower



dog

-

Nonliving



rock



pencil

6 Signs of Life



Grow



Move



Breathe



Eat



Reproduce



Respond

Living things show ALL six signs.

Nonliving things show NONE of these.

! Ask yourself: Does it grow on its own? Does it need food and water? Can it produce offspring? If YES to all — it is living!

TRACING PRACTICE

Trace each word, then copy it twice on the lines below.

TRACE (PASS OVER)

living

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

nontliving

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

grow

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

breathe

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

reproduce

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

organism

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

survive

COPY 1

COPY 2

TRACE (PASS OVER)

respond

COPY 1

COPY 2

Tip: Say each word aloud as you trace it. Think of one living example that fits!

EXERCISES — SORT & MATCH

Write each word in the correct column.

WORDS TO SORT

dog

rock

sunflower

bicycle

mushroom

cloud

frog

pencil

oak tree

glass of water

earthworm

wooden chair

Living

Nonliving

EXERCISES — MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Which of the following is a sign that something is living?

- It is warm when you touch it.
- It grows and changes over time.
- It is found outside.

2. A rock is nonliving because it does NOT —

- grow, breathe, or reproduce.
- come from the ground.
- get wet in the rain.

3. What do ALL living things need to survive?

- Sunlight, soil, and sand
- Space, metal, and wind
- Food, water, and air

4. A wooden chair was made from a tree. Is the chair living?

- Yes, because wood comes from a tree.
- No, because the chair cannot grow or reproduce.
- Yes, because it is made of a natural material.

5. Which of these is a sign of life that a sunflower shows but a pebble does NOT?

- It can reproduce by making seeds.
- It can be found in a garden.
- It can be any color.

6. Water is nonliving, but it is important because —

- it can move on its own.
- it grows bigger over time.
- all living things need it to survive.

7. A plant turns its leaves toward sunlight. This shows that living things —

- can make their own light.
- respond to their environment.
- never stay still.

8. What do scientists call all living things?

- Organisms
- Minerals
- Elements

9. A fallen dead leaf —

- is living because it came from a tree.
- is living because it is found in nature.
- is nonliving because it no longer grows or breathes.

10. How many signs of life must something show to be called living?

- At least two
- All six
- Any three

ASSESSMENT

PARENT / TEACHER CHECKLIST

- Sorts pictures or objects correctly into Living and Nonliving groups without prompting.
- Names at least three of the six signs of life (grow, move, breathe, eat, reproduce, respond).
- Explains aloud why a nonliving object (such as a rock or pencil) is not alive.
- Correctly identifies a tricky case — such as a dead leaf or wooden table — and explains that it is now nonliving.