



Living or Nonliving?

Answer Sheet

Explore the sensory garden in your outdoor classroom to look for things that are living.

1. Draw and identify one living thing.

Example Answers:

- Acorns & other seeds
- Butterfly
- Lizard
- Algae
- Fish
- Moss
- Bird
- Flowering Plant
- Mushroom
- Bird Eggs
- Frog
- Tree
- Blueberry Bush
- Grass
- Vegetable Plant
- Bug
- Insects

Common Questions from Students:

Why is an acorn or seed alive even after it falls off the plant or tree? *Even though it is in a dormant state, the acorn or seed will change into a seedling and grow into a plant or tree that needs food and water to live.*

How are algae, moss, or a mushroom a living thing? *These are all similar to plants that change and grow over time, but often it takes longer for that change/growth to occur so it's less noticeable. They still need food and water to survive.*

Circle the answers to the questions below to prove that it is living.

2. Does it move? Yes No
3. Does it grow? Yes No
4. Does it change? Yes No
5. Does it have to breathe to survive? Yes No
6. Does it have to eat food to survive? Yes No
7. Does it have to drink water to survive? Yes No



Explore the sensory garden in your outdoor classroom to look for things that are not living.

8. Draw and identify one nonliving thing.

Example Answers:

- Air
- Bench
- Bird Bath
- Bird Feeder
- Bird House
- Branch on Ground
- Clouds
- Dirt
- Leaf on Ground
- Lightning
- Metal Sign
- Rain
- Rock
- Sun
- Water
- Water Hose
- Wind Chimes
- Wooden Sign

Common Questions from Students:

Why is a leaf or branch not alive after they fall off the plant (tree)? *A leaf or branch cannot get the food and water it needs to stay alive after it becomes separated from the roots, stem, or trunk of the plant (tree).*

Why aren't water, air, clouds, rain and lightning living things? *They all move and change, don't they? Temperature and gravity cause these things to move and change, just like you can move your pencil or change it when you sharpen it. Also, they do not need food and water because they are not alive.*

Circle the answers to the questions below to prove it is not living.

9. Does it move? Yes No
10. Does it grow? Yes No
11. Does it change? Yes No
12. Does it have to breathe to survive? Yes No
13. Does it have to eat food to survive? Yes No
14. Does it have to drink water to survive? Yes No

