

Living or Nonliving?

An Alabama Wildlife Federation Outdoor Classroom Field Journal Activity

Are you alive? Are you living or nonliving?



Yes, I am alive. I am a living thing.

Is a doll alive? Is it living or nonliving?



No, it is not alive. It is a nonliving thing.

How do you know?
What is the difference between you and a doll?



We know we are alive
because we eat,
breathe, and grow.
A doll does not eat,
breathe, or grow.
It is not alive.



Is a pencil alive? What is the difference between you and your pencil?



No, a pencil is not alive. We know we are alive because we move, grow, and change. A pencil does not move, grow or change unless we move it or change it (for example: by sharpening the pencil).

What do you need to survive ?
What does your pencil need to survive?

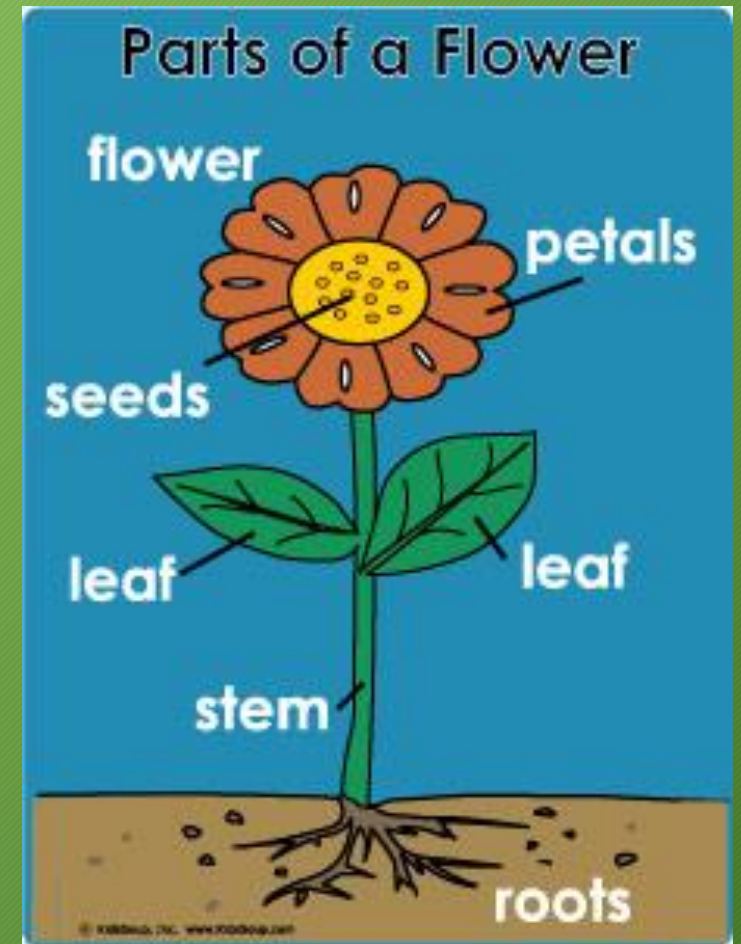


We need water to drink, food to eat, air to breathe, but a pencil doesn't need any of those things because it is not alive. It cannot die.

How does a plant get the food, water and air that it needs to survive?

Plants "drink" water and food through their roots, and they breathe through tiny holes on the underside of their leaves.

They also make food in their leaves using energy from the sun.



Can we find any living things in our outdoor classroom? Can we find any nonliving things?

We may find living things such as plants and animals, or non-living things such as benches or rocks.

