Comparing Land and Water Plants

A Carolina Essentials™ Activity

Student Worksheet

Overview

Plants are amazing. They can grow on land, float on the water, or live under the water. Plants that live on or in the water are called aquatic plants. Plants can also live in the desert or a rain forest. All plants make their own food, and they all need sunlight, water, and nutrients to live.



How are land and water plants different? How are they alike?

Activity Objectives

Describe how plants change to live in different places.

Safety

Wipe up water if it spills. Treat the sprouts gently.

Procedures

- 1. Cover the desk with paper.
- 2. Put both plants on the paper, 4 to 6 inches apart.
- 3. Trace around both plants.
- 4. Look at both plants with the magnifying glass.
- 5. Fill in the data table.

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MATERIALS

Duckweed

Land plant

Magnifying glass

Newsprint or craft paper



Data

Look at the plants and fill in the data table.

	Land Plant	Aquatic Plant
Shape of leaf		
Number of leaves		
Color of leaves		
Where roots are attached		
Number or roots		
Color of roots		
Shape of stem		
How leaves are attached to the stem		
Color of stem		
Shape of plant		
Other observations		

Analysis and Discussion

- 1. How are land plants and aquatic plants similar?
- 2. How are land plants and aquatic plants different?
- 3. What makes land plants better able to live on land?
- 4. What makes water plants better able to live in water?

