What Living Things Need

Students use short observation stories to find patterns in survival needs.

K.4 "Use observations to determine patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive, including light, water, and nutrients."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 PLANT CLUES

a	water	light	nutrients
b	water	nutrients	light
c	light	water	nutrients

2 ANIMAL CLUES

a	light	water	food
b	food	light	water
c	food	water	light

ANSWER KEY

What Living Things Need

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each story and its three printed choices aloud, then allow time for students to circle an answer. Listen for students using the differences in each story to identify what plants, rabbits, and humans need, and record any support separately.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · PLANT CLUES

SAY "Listen to what happens to the plants. I will read the choices in each row. Circle what the story shows a plant needs."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Two small plants have the same soil and water. One grows by a sunny window. The other grows in a dark closet and stays small. What does the plant by the window get that helps it grow?	**light**
b	Two plants sit by the same window in the same soil. One has moist soil and stays firm. The other has dry soil and droops. What does the drooping plant need?	**water**
c	Two small plants get the same light and water. One grows well in garden soil. The other stays small in clean sand. What does garden soil give the plant that clean sand does not?	**nutrients**

PART 2 · ANIMAL CLUES

SAY "Now listen to stories about rabbits and children. Think about needs they share. Circle one choice in each row."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Two rabbits get the same drinks. One eats greens and stays strong. The other has no meals and grows weak. What do rabbits need from meals?	**food**
b	Think about the rabbits. Now two children get the same drinks. One eats meals and stays strong. The other misses meals and grows weak. What do the rabbits and children both need?	**food**
c	Two children eat the same meals. One drinks from a cup and stays well. The other has nothing to drink and grows weak. What do children need to drink?	**water**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Plant rows: light, water, nutrients. Animal rows: food, food, water. Accept one circled answer per row.