What Helps Plants?

Record plant needs and compare plant heights with classroom objects.

L.K.3A.1 "With teacher guidance, conduct a structured investigation to determine what plants need to live and grow (water, light, and a place to grow). Measure growth by directly comparing plants with other objects."

NAME _____ DATE _____

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

1 PLANT NEEDS

a	milk	water	wind
b	light	dark	rain
c	dark	juice	space

2 WHICH IS TALLER?

a	plant	pencil	same
b	clip	same	plant

ANSWER KEY

What Helps Plants?

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Before using the sheet, guide children in observing three pairs of seedlings over several days. In each pair, change only one condition: water, light, or room for roots. For the height comparisons, choose one seedling shorter than a pencil and another taller than a paper clip.

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 NEEDS

SAY "Think about the plants we checked each day. I will read the choices in each row. Circle one answer."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	One plant got water, and one did not. They had the same light and room for roots. What did the plant that grew well get? Circle one answer.	**water**
b	One plant got light, and one stayed in the dark. They had the same water and room for roots. What did the plant that grew well get? Circle one answer.	**light**
c	One plant had room for its roots, and the other did not. They had the same water and light. What did the plant that grew well have? Circle one answer.	**space**

PART 2 · WHICH IS TALLER?

SAY "Now we will compare real plants with classroom objects. Put the bottoms next to each other, look at the tops, and circle what is taller."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Place the first plant beside the pencil. Which is taller? Circle one answer.	**pencil**
b	Place the second plant beside the paper clip. Which is taller? Circle one answer.	**plant**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

The plant-needs answers are water, light, and space. The height answers assume the teacher selects a first plant shorter than the pencil and a second plant taller than the paper clip; record any support needed to align and compare them.