Word Tool Detectives

Choose the right reference tool for each word.

3.L.V.3.d "Use glossaries or beginning dictionaries, both print and digital, to check spelling and to determine or clarify the precise meaning of words and phrases. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Locate the entry you need. Underline the words in that entry that support each answer.

Maya's Garden Guide

Maya writes garden notes about buds and sprouts. She also reads that a young plant can turn toward light. Consult these sample entries before answering.

Short teaching excerpts written for this worksheet. Use a complete print or digital reference for the independent task.

Sample glossary

SAMPLE GLOSSARY

bud A young flower or shoot that has not opened.
turn toward light For a growing plant, bend slowly in the direction of light while remaining rooted.

Sample dictionary

SAMPLE DICTIONARY

sprouts plural noun: young plants beginning to grow. Spelling: s-p-r-o-u-t-s.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Use the glossary to explain bud in the garden.

2. Copy the correct spelling from the dictionary: sprowts. Name your source.

3. Use the glossary to explain turn toward light. Does the plant walk across the soil?

4. Where could you first look for the meaning of a special word in an earth science booklet? Explain.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a word you want to use in a science or social studies sentence. Use a print or digital glossary or beginning dictionary to check its spelling and precise meaning, then write the word, the source you used, its meaning, and a sentence that uses it correctly.

ANSWER KEY

Word Tool Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.L.V.3.d

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Locate the entry you need. Underline the words in that entry that support each answer. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use the glossary to explain bud in the garden.	**A young flower or shoot that has not opened.**
2	Copy the correct spelling from the dictionary: sprowts. Name your source.	**sprouts; the sample dictionary.**
3	Use the glossary to explain turn toward light. Does the plant walk across the soil?	**It bends toward light as it grows; it stays rooted.**
4	Where could you first look for the meaning of a special word in an earth science booklet? Explain.	**Its glossary, which contains words selected for that topic; otherwise a dictionary.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Word: habitat. Source: a digital beginning dictionary. Meaning: the natural home of a plant or animal. Sentence: A pond is a frog's habitat.

Accept equivalent, accurate meanings from a suitable reference source. For the open task, accept any correctly spelled word, named glossary or dictionary source, precise meaning, and sentence that uses the word correctly. Answers must come from consultation of the printed sample entries. These authored teaching excerpts are not quotations from a commercial dictionary. For the independent task require actual reference use.