

Observational Writing Activity

PART 1

Read the word bank below. Then, observe a **plant** in or near your home. This can be anything from a fern, to a cactus, to a tree, to even a patch of grass. Just pick something you can stare at for a little while.

Observe this plant for **10 minutes**. As you observe, jot down words and phrases that describe the plant in front of you. You may use terms from the word bank to help you come up with terms to write down.

WORD BANK

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| Tropical | Desert | Prairie | Forest |
| Bright | Stationary | Feathery | Big |
| Soft | Short | Dramatic | Succulent |
| Seeds | Tall | Fleshy | Stubby |
| Scaly | Woody | Hydrated | Fibrous |
| Young | Watery | Dry | Tubular |
| Green | Creeping | Wilting | Scraggly |
| Chartreuse | Thorny | Brown | Durable |
| Miniature | Bushy | Purple | Arid |
| Sparkly | Flowering | Sappy | Magical |
| Healthy | Non-flowering | Peeling | Vascular |
| Leafy | Hearty | Potted | Whimsical |
| Fruitful | Wild | Sprawling | Thirsty |
| Scratchy | Autumnal | Sagging | Vegetation |
| Oak | Fragrant | Brittle | Copper |
| Luscious | Putrid | Russet | Scarlet |
| Flame | Rusty | Lemon | Crimson |
| Evergreen | Amber | Pocked | Chocolate |
| Breakable | Pointy | Sharp | Drab |
| Waxy | Blooming | Abundant | Rigid |
| Tufted | Rubbery | Pollen-heavy | Curled |
| Bumpy | Prickly | Sticky | Velvety |

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU HAVE FINISHED PART 1

PART 2

| Observation Notes | Reflection on your observation |
|--|---|
| <p>Day 1 _____ (date) Copy down your list of descriptive terms from when you observed the plant. List them below.</p> | |
| <p>Day 2 _____ (date) Come back a different day, and observe the plant from memory, using full sentences. Do not go back to actually observe the plant, just use your memory. You may use the words you listed in the box above to help you write this description.</p> | <p>How did your observation change between yesterday and today?</p> |

| Observation Notes | Reflection on your observation |
|--|---|
| <p>Day 3 _____ (date) Observe the plant once again from memory in a different way. Try not to rely on the description from the box above. Perhaps there is a specific part of the plant you want to focus on?</p> | <p>How did your observation change between yesterday and today?</p> |
| <p>Day 4 _____ (date) Observe the plant one last time, from memory, in a new way. Perhaps you want to use figurative language to expand your description?</p> | <p>How has what you are noticing changed through the course of this exercise?</p> |

