

Living and Non-Living Things

A Science A-Z Life Series

Word Count: 217




Science a-z

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 **Science a-z**



Living and Non-Living Things



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KEY ELEMENTS USED IN THIS BOOK

The Big Idea: Humans rely on a wide variety of living and non-living things. But we have to take care of living things differently than non-living things. Plants need water, light, and air to grow. We need plants to use for food, clothing, and much more. Animals require food, water, air, and shelter. We use animals for food, clothing, labor, companionship, and much more. As humans, we have the ability and responsibility to care for ourselves and other living things so that our own needs are met and to ensure that the world will always be full of diverse living things.

Key words: adapt, alive, cells, dead, develop, energy, grow, living, non-living, reproduction, respond, Sun, thing

Key comprehension skill: Compare and contrast

Other suitable comprehension skills: Classify information; main idea and details; identify facts; elements of a genre

Key reading strategy: Ask and answer questions

Other suitable reading strategies: Connect to prior knowledge; summarize; visualize

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Reading Levels

Learning A-Z	J
Lexile	460L

Correlations

Fountas and Pinnell*	J
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*Correlated independent reading level

This clock moves and makes noise. But is it alive? Was it ever alive?



3



What about this log? How do you know if something is living or not?

4

Living things follow these six rules.



1. Living things grow and develop.



A dog is fully developed at the age of two. Are people?



2. Living things get and use energy.

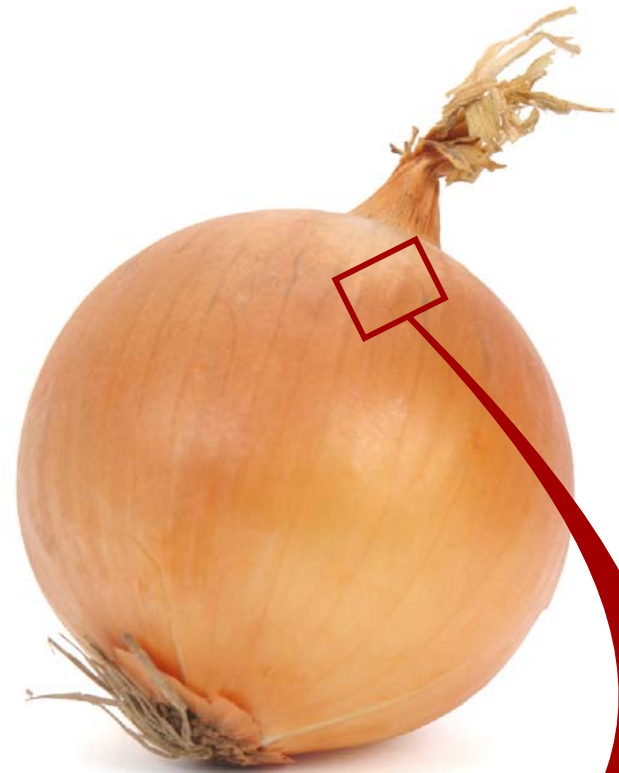


WOWSER!

Without reproduction,
living things would
disappear!



3. Living things make more
of their own kind.



Onion cells are boxy.

4. Living things are made
of cells.



- 5.** Living things respond.
This bear responds to cold winters by sleeping in a cave.



- 6.** Living things adapt. This rabbit's fur turns white in the winter. With white fur, it can hide in the snow from enemies.



A living thing is anything that is now alive. It is also anything that was once alive. Is a log a living thing? Yes, because it was once a living tree.

A non-living thing is anything that was never alive. Metal, plastic, and rocks are non-living things.



Is It Living or Non-Living?



Which pictures show
a living thing?

All four!



A cat is a
moving,
living thing.

A tree doesn't
move, but it's
alive.



The log and the apple were
both once alive. So they are
living things.



The clock, car, and pen are non-living. They are made of metal and plastic.



Which pictures show a non-living thing?



Is the dead flower non-living?
No! It was once alive.

Word Wise

Dead things are things that once needed food, air, and water, and now do not.

