

Teacher Information about the Student Worksheets

An important part of any nature study is to observe it firsthand. These sheets can be used in a variety of settings, whether an urban park, a suburban school yard, or a forest.

The first sheet is for recording a simple inventory. It is organized by whether the objects observed are natural or human made. It could be preceded by a class discussion of things which are natural vs. things which are human made.

The second worksheet is designed to help students learn from their observations by sharing them with each other and paying attention to details. It also sets the stage for a return trip to the study site and for further research.

The third sheet serves as a guide for the student to engage in a more focused study of one object in the field.

Name _____

Date _____

Review Your Data

With a partner or a small group, review the list you made during your field observation. Discuss the questions first. Then write down your ideas. Be thoughtful and include details.

What do you notice?

Are the lists exactly the same? If not, how are they different?

Was there anything on the lists which surprised you? If there was, what was it and why was it surprising?

If you were to return to the observation site, what tools might you bring along to help you do a more detailed observation?

Is there anything you observed that you would like to research further? What? How would you go about your research?

Name _____

Date _____

Location _____

Field Observation #2

Choose one of the things you observed to study further. Remember, the more details you collect, the more you will learn about what you study.

What are you studying:

What you did to study it:

What you learned (include what you observed):

What questions do you have:

Name _____

How can you find the answers to these questions?

Sketches (please label them)

