

Common Writing Assignment: Science



Is it living?

A group of students were asked to classify things as “living” or “nonliving.” They were asked to consider the following things:

Butterfly	Fire
Mushroom	Tree
Sun	Hibernating Bear
Seed	Tornado



Write a paper that makes a claim about which of these things are living. Use evidence to support your claim and explain your reasoning. Be sure to include why the other things are nonliving.

Don't Forget to...

Plan your writing using an outline, web or graphic organizer. As you write each draft of your assignment, it's important to use what you know as a writer to communicate your ideas effectively.

- ✓ Provide a clear claim that answers the question.
- ✓ Include evidence -- using data from class activities, experiments and other resources.
- ✓ Include reasoning to show how your evidence supports your claim.
- ✓ Use vocabulary that you have learned in science class.
- ✓ Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors.