**Name Date**

## Observing the Characteristics of Life

In this activity, you’ll identify observable characteristics of life in videos of various organisms and describe those characteristics.

Review

What are six easily observable characteristics of living things?



To Do and Notice

***If your teacher is displaying the videos:***

Record one or more of the characteristics that you observe for each category and describe it on the data table that follows.

***If you are doing this activity independently:***

1. On the data table, click on each category name in turn.
2. Read the introduction, then play the video.
3. Record one or more of the characteristics that you observe for each category and describe it on your data table.

Name Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I CAN distinguish between living and nonliving things based on characteristics.

List six characterstics of living

things.

**Characteristics of Life Data Table**

List the six easily observable characteristics of living things from this web site:

1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(just write the one word)

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the one characteristic that our textbook lists that is not listed above?

7.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Category | **Characteristics of Life** | **Description of Observed Characteristics** |
| [C. elegans](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/c_elegans.html)(Caenorhabditis elegans) Video: Moving *C. elegans* |  |  |
| [Sea Urchins](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/sea_urchins_div.html)  (Lytechinus pictus)  Video: Sea urchin cell division |  |  |
| [Sea Urchins](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/sea_urchins_fert.html)  (Lytechinus pictus)  Video: Sea urchin fertilization |  |  |
| [Blood Cells](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/blood_cells.html)  Video: Human white blood cells |  |  |
| [Cellular Structure and Function](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/cell_struct_funct.html)  Video: *Elodea* leaf cells |  |  |
| [Stem Cells](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/stem_cells.html)  Videos: Compare Mouse embryonic stem cells—movie 1 with Heart cells grown from mouse embryonic stem cells—movie 1 |  |  |
| [Cell Motility](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/cell_motility.html)  Video: Crawling *Amoeba* |  |  |
| [Zebrafish](http://www.exploratorium.edu/imaging_station/students/zebrafish.html)  *(Danio rerio)*  Video: Zebrafish development |  |  |