



Basic Needs of Living Things

Field Investigation Charts

Online Lesson Plans & Resources available on the Alabama Wildlife Federation website

Option #1 on Page 1: “Basic Needs of Living Things” Brainstorming Chart – Create a chart with one heading and two columns (or use the empty chart below on page 1) on your Elmo, white board or flipchart, and then ask the students to brainstorm to help you fill in the chart. Help the students look for patterns as evidence in their answers and discuss how they fit in a broad list of needs (*example at bottom of page 1*).

Option #2 on Page 2: “Basic Needs of Living Things” Checklist - Put the chart on page 2 on the Elmo or whiteboard and read the informational text together with your students. Help the students look for patterns.

What Does an Animal or Plant Need to Live?	
Basic Needs of Animals	Basic Needs of Plants
	

Example Brainstorming Chart: What Does an Animal or Plant Need to Live?	
Needs of Animals	Needs of Plants
Air Water Nuts or Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Food Plants like Grass or Leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Food Worms, Insects or other Animals <input type="checkbox"/> Food Protection from bad weather <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter	Air Water (using their roots) Soil <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrients/Food (using their roots) Fertilizer like worm poop <input type="checkbox"/> Food Sun <input type="checkbox"/> Sunlight (nutrients via photosynthesis) Protection from bad weather <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter

Protection from predators ☐ Shelter

Place to live and grow ☐ Shelter

Basic Needs of Living Things Checklist

(If you don't have time for the Brainstorming Activity.)

Put the chart below on Elmo/whiteboard so that you can read the informational text together with your students. Help the students look for patterns.

What Does an Animal or Plant Need to Live?

Needs of Animals



Air
Water
Food
Shelter

Needs of Plants



Air
Water
Food
Sunlight

