

Science Answer Key: Weeks 25–28

Accept child spellings that are readable. Data pages use the child's own results, so check that answers match the table.

Week 25: What is Biodiversity?

1. Look for: a square named and a reason (more plants, shade, leaves, water, or hiding places).

Table: answers vary. Look for: at least four kinds written; P or A circled correctly (grass, clover, moss are plants; ants, worms, pill bugs, birds are animals); tally marks in the right column.

2. the number of rows with a tally in each column. Most yards give 6 to 12 kinds.

3. Look for: the square with the larger number; a feature such as plants, shade, moisture, soil, or hiding places.

4. rainforest. Look for: a reason such as more water, more plants, or more places to hide and find food.

5. Accept a cactus, desert grass, or other dry-land plant, and a lizard, snake, camel, scorpion, roadrunner, or other desert animal.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: the table matches the survey, the result names the square with more kinds, and the child gives a reason tied to plants, water, or shelter.

Week 26: Animal Groups & Classification

1. Mammals: dog, horse.

2. Birds: robin, penguin.

3. Reptiles: snake, turtle.

4. Amphibians: frog, salamander.

5. Fish: goldfish, shark.

6. Insects: ant, butterfly.

7. Yes. It has feathers.

8. No. Insects have six legs, and a spider has eight.

9. No. A mushroom is a fungus. Plants make food from sunlight; mushrooms break down old leaves and wood.

10. Look for: one animal drawn; a label that names a feature (fur, feathers, scales, wet skin, fins, six legs); the feature matches the correct group.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: at least ten of twelve animals are sorted correctly and the child uses a body feature to explain each tricky one.

Week 27: Living Things Depend on Each Other

1–4. Predictions vary. Usual results: A sprouts first and grows most; C may sprout pale and tall; B and D stop or dry out once the towel dries. Accept the child's real results.

5. Cup A (usually), because it had both sun and water.

6. Bee gets nectar or pollen (food); it carries pollen from flower to flower.

7. Squirrel gets acorns (food) and a home in the tree; it buries acorns that can grow into new trees.

8. Bird gets berries (food) and a place to perch or nest; it carries the seeds to new places.

9. Look for: animals carry seeds on fur or feet; the seeds fall off in new places and can grow.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: the table is filled from real observations, the claim names the cup with sun and water, and each pair shows what goes both ways.

Week 28: Protecting Habitats

1. food, water, shelter, space.

2. Litter and oil got into the pond and hurt the animals.

3. **Look for:** an animal and a loss, such as the frog could not find its rock, the duck's feathers got oily, the fish had dirty water.

4. **Look for:** a labeled drawing; a clear part that blocks litter (screen, fence, net, lid) or catches oil (floating boom); materials named.

5–6. counts from the child's tests (0 to 5); yes or no for oil.

7. **Look for:** one specific change; the Test 2 count compared to Test 1.

8. Accept: put litter in bins, pick up trash, plant native flowers, leave logs for animals, keep oil and soap out of drains.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: the problem is stated clearly, the design is labeled, both tests are recorded, and the child names one improvement.

Weeks 25–28: Vocabulary and Big Ideas

1–10. 1 biodiversity, 2 habitat, 3 classify, 4 mammal, 5 reptile, 6 amphibian, 7 insect, 8 pollen, 9 depend, 10 protect.

11. **Look for:** the bee gets food (nectar or pollen); the flower gets pollen carried to other flowers so it can make seeds; the word depend or help used correctly.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: at least eight matches are correct and the explanation tells what both the bee and the flower get.

Weeks 25–28: My Reflection

Look for: honest checks; a labeled drawing of a real idea from the unit (a survey square, an animal group, a bean cup, a pond protector); two sentences that tell what it shows.

Talk about it: for any box left blank, revisit that week's investigation together.

Scoring: Developing / Approaching / Proficient / Exemplary. Proficient: the drawing and sentences clearly show one correct science idea from Weeks 25–28.