

EXPLANATION TEXT

YEAR 3: Writing Worksheets

 Focus: Writing to Explain (How or Why)

 Learning Intentions: I can write an explanation using the correct structure, present tense, and sequencing words.

★ Part I: Let's Understand It!

What is an explanation text?

An explanation text tells how or why something happens.

Structure:

1. Title
2. General statement - What are you explaining?
3. Steps / Cause and effect - Explain how or why it happens.
4. Ending (optional) - A final interesting fact or summary.



Activity One: Features Hunt!

Instructions: Read the short explanation below and answer the questions.

Why Do We Have Day and Night?

The Earth spins around like a top. This spinning movement is called rotation. The Earth takes 24 hours to turn all the way around once. When your part of the Earth faces the Sun, it is day. When your part turns away from the Sun, it is night.

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Date: _____

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Questions:

1. What is the title of this explanation?

2. What is the general statement?

.....

3. List two technical words used in the text

4. What causes night to happen

5. Write the time words used.....

Activity 2: Jumbled Steps

Instructions: Rewrite these steps in the correct order to explain how a seed grows into a plant.

1. The roots begin to grow into the soil.
2. A seed is placed in the soil and watered.
3. A small shoot pushes through the soil.
4. Leaves grow and the plant uses sunlight to make food.



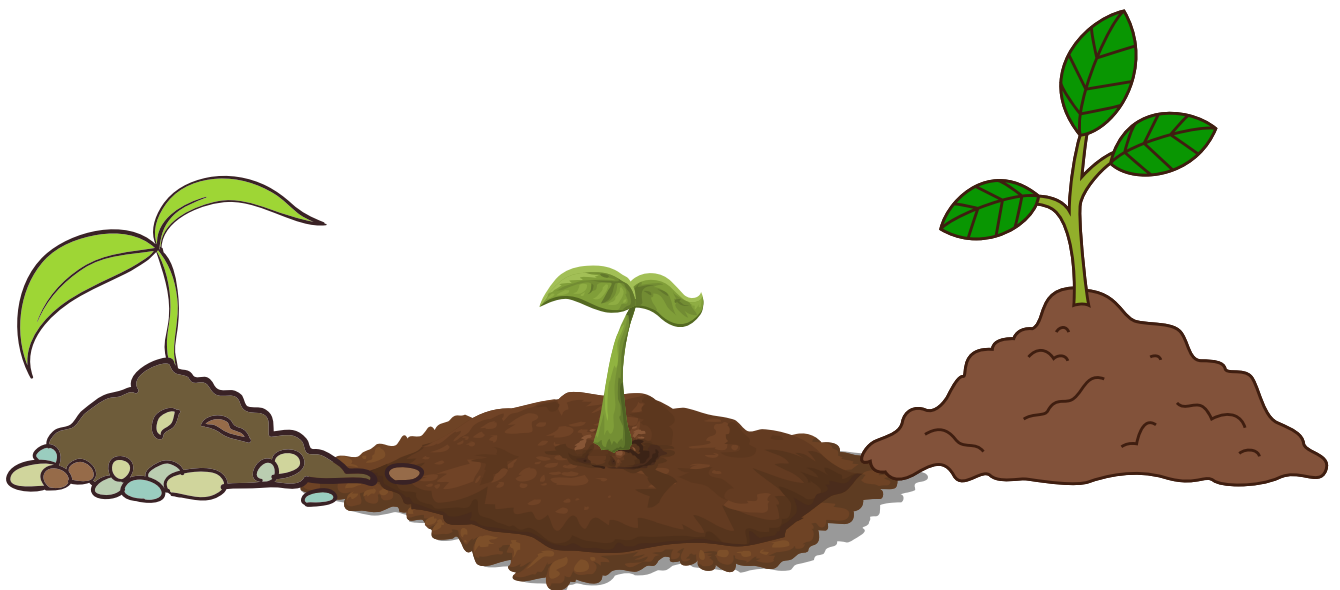
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Name:

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Activity Three: Plan Your Explanation

Topic: How Do Rainbows Form?



Use this scaffold to plan your writing:

Title: _____

General statement: (What are you explaining?) _____

Step 1: _____

Step 2: _____

Step 3: _____

Ending sentence or fact (optional): _____

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Activity 4: Write Your Explanation

Now, use your plan to write your full explanation paragraph below. Use time words, present tense, and topic-specific words.

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Date: _____

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Draw and Label It!

Draw a diagram to match your explanation (e.g. stages of a plant, rainbow forming, etc.)

Label the parts using technical words.

Name: _____

Date: _____

ANSWERS

Name: _____

Date: _____

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ANSWERS

Activity One - Why Do We Have Day and Night?"

1. What is the title of this explanation? → **Why Do We Have Day and Night?**
2. What is the general statement? → **The Earth spins around like a top.**
3. List two technical words used in the text. → **Rotation, Earth**
4. What causes night to happen? → **Night happens when your part of the Earth turns away from the Sun.**
5. Write the time words used. What are they? → **When, 24 hours**

Activity Two - How a seed grows into a plant

1. A seed is placed in the soil and watered.
2. The roots begin to grow into the soil.
3. A small shoot pushes through the soil.
4. Leaves grow and the plant uses sunlight to make food.



Name: _____

Date: _____

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ANSWERS

Year 3 Activity Three: Plan Your Explanation - How Do Rainbows Form?

Title: How Rainbows Are Made

General statement (What are you explaining?):

I am explaining how rainbows appear in the sky after it rains.



Step 1:

When it rains and the sun comes out, sunlight shines on the raindrops in the air.

Step 2:

The light bends and splits into seven colours as it passes through the raindrops.

Step 3:

The colours reflect inside the raindrops and come out as a curved rainbow in the sky.

Ending sentence or fact (optional):

4. Rainbows always appear in the part of the sky opposite the sun.

Activity 4: Write Your Explanation

How Rainbows Are Made

When it rains and the sun comes out, sunlight shines on the raindrops in the air. First, the light bends and splits into seven different colours as it passes through the raindrops. Next, the colours reflect inside the raindrops and come out to form a curved rainbow in the sky.

Rainbows always appear in the part of the sky opposite the sun.

Name:

Date: