

Y6 Classifying Plants

KS2 Y6 Science · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Is grass a flowering plant?

Step 1 · Look closely in early summer

Tall stalks with tiny green flowers, often with yellow pollen

Step 2 · What happens after?

Seeds form (wheat and oats are grass seeds)

Step 3 · Does it have bright petals?

No. It is pollinated by the wind, so it doesn't need to attract insects

Answer: Yes. Grass is a flowering plant. Not all flowers are big and colourful.

Check: Flowering plants make seeds inside flowers. That's the defining feature.

2. Now try one with the steps

How do ferns and mosses differ from flowering plants?

Step 1 · Flowers?

Step 2 · Seeds?

Step 3 · Where do they grow?

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What are the two main groups of plants?

2. Where do conifers make their seeds?

3. What do ferns and mosses use to reproduce instead of seeds?

4. Is an apple tree a flowering or non-flowering plant?

5. What do we call a tree that drops its leaves in autumn?

6. What do we call a tree that keeps its leaves all year?

7. Which group of non-flowering plants has fronds?

8. Why do mosses usually grow in damp places?

9. Is grass a flowering plant?

10. A larch has needles and cones but loses its needles in winter. Is it a conifer?

11. Give ONE similarity between a moss and a daisy.

12. Give ONE difference between a fern and a daisy.

13. Why is 'has green leaves' not a useful question for sorting plants into groups?

14. Holly is evergreen. Does that make it a conifer? Explain.

4. Before you hand it in

Thinking grass and trees aren't flowering plants.

If it makes seeds inside flowers (even tiny green ones), it's a flowering plant.

Thinking 'evergreen' and 'conifer' mean the same thing.

Conifer is about cones. Evergreen is about keeping leaves.

Saying ferns grow from seeds.

Ferns and mosses reproduce by spores.

Putting mushrooms with plants.

Fungi are their own group (see Y6-S1).