

Name _____

Date _____



Forest Floor Terrarium Observation Page



Question: *How will the forest floor terrarium change over a period of three or more months?*

Directions: Read the previous Observation Page, then record your observations below. Caution: Do not open the terrarium if you have environmental allergies or are sensitive to fungi such as mold.

- 1) Terrarium Temperature _____
- 2) Make a list of the first five things you observe about the terrarium. You may want to carefully turn over the leaf litter and investigate the soil and rotting log.

- 3) Draw an interesting organism (producer, consumer, or decomposer) that you've observed. Include a measurement and comment for each. Each member of your team should have a different drawing.

Organism	Comments

Name _____

Date _____



*Forest Floor Terrarium
Observation Page
(continued)*



- 4) Check the moisture of the topsoil layer with your fingers. Circle the best description for the moisture level below.

Too Dry

The dirt is crumbly and there is little or no moisture on the side of the terrarium.

Just Right

The dirt is moist, but not muddy and sticks to your fingers in small clumps. Moisture is clinging to the side of the terrarium.

Too Wet

The dirt is muddy and smears between your fingers. The subsoil may have standing water.

- 5) Using the Rotting Log Data Sheet as a guide, predict the mass of the rotting log. Then record the actual mass of the rotting log below. Ask your teacher about charting this information on the Rotting Log Data Sheet.

Predicted mass of the rotting log _____

Actual mass of the rotting log _____

- 6) Photograph the terrarium from a top view (optional, but recommended).
- 7) Schedule a time with your teacher to share your observations with the class.