

3. Answers will vary. Students should understand that an ability to respond to stimuli is a defining characteristic of living organisms.

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1. Answers will vary. Students might posit seasonal or other environmental factors such as protection from predators or the elements.

2. Answers will vary. Students should understand that the closing of the flower protects it from damage caused by exposure to too much light.



1. The photos show the identical petals of a plant in two different positions. What do you think could cause this change in the petals' appearance?
2. If you learned that the flower folds in bright sunlight, what purpose would you conclude is being served?
3. What defining characteristic of all living organisms is displayed by the plant in the photos?