Leaf Observation: Adult Guide

One fixed vocabulary answer; individual evidence for the observation tasks.

The exact question

The leaf stalk joins the blade to the plant stem. “Stalk” or “petiole” is also acceptable. The example is a broad leaf with a stalk; some leaves attach directly to the stem.

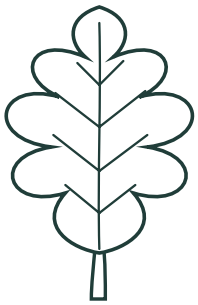
Check the example labels

Tip: the far end of this blade. Edge: the outside boundary. Blade: the broad, flat part. Veins: the branching lines within the blade. Leaf stalk: the part below the blade that attaches it to the plant.

The real observations have variable answers

Compare the drawing and words with the actual leaves. Accept accurately observed colours, shapes, edges and visible veins. A leaf need not be green. If a feature is hard to see, “I cannot see it clearly” is a useful observation.

The similarity and difference must fit the chosen pair. For example, two leaves might both have visible veins but have different edges. This is an illustration of the task, not a required answer.



Support without inventing results

Use two real adult-checked leaves, including ones provided indoors. Say descriptive words together and scribe the child’s own observations if needed. Do not identify a species from these schematic diagrams or treat one leaf shape as a rule for every plant.

Suggested ages 5–7 with adult support. No official curriculum approval is claimed.