



Facilitator note: Fictional plant care and a borrowed responsibility. Keep to what the card allows, what Eviatar saw, and what no one knows. Do not require anyone to say the fern recovers or that Eviatar was right. Open responses may disagree about whether he should have acted differently.

Activity 1: Sequence

Order:

- A. Eviatar finds a frond on the floor.
- B. His sister tells him to cut off the ugly parts.
- C. He waters the fern for the first time.
- D. Mr. Treitel hands him the key and the card.
- E. Shua asks, "Not supposed to or not allowed?"
- F. Eviatar finds a bag with a jar of honey on his door handle.

Which of these events change what Eviatar knows, and which only change what other people say?

Activity 2: Card, saw, or guess?

Label C if it comes from the card, S if Eviatar saw it, G if it is a guess.

- 1. Water the fern only when the soil is dry down to your second knuckle.
- 2. On Wednesday the soil was cool and a little damp.
- 3. The fern is too dark where it sits.
- 4. A whole frond lay on the floor on Friday.
- 5. Mr. Treitel says the plants sulk when he travels.
- 6. The jade plant needs nothing.





Which items could Eviatar use to decide whether to water? Which ones can he not use alone?

Activity 3: Inside the card or not?

Sort each action into Inside the card or Outside the card or hard to undo:

- Check the soil with a finger.
- Cut off the brown tips.
- Turn the lemon plant a quarter.
- Repot the fern.
- Water the fern when the soil is dry down to your second knuckle.
- Move the fern to a different window.

Pick one fictional plant of your own and write one action inside an owner's card and one outside it for it.

Activity 4: Days and turns

- Mr. Treitel leaves Sunday night and returns the Tuesday after next. How many days is he away?
- Eviatar finds the frond on Friday and hands it over on Tuesday evening. How many days later is that?
- The lemon gets a quarter turn. How many quarter turns make a full turn? After three quarter turns, how much of a full turn has it moved?
- He checks the soil in two places on Monday and both are dry. Why might one spot alone be a weaker check?





Activity 5: Write the log line

Rewrite each guess as a line a log could hold:

- "The fern hates the kitchen."
- "I think the soil is basically dry."
- "Someone must have moved it."

Each rewrite should say what was seen or done, with a day. If the real answer is unknown, say so.

Activity 6: Not supposed to or not allowed?

Write a short reply Eviatar could give Shua that keeps the card's limit without calling Shua wrong or making a speech. Then write a different reply a friend might give to a limit that is not so clear. No real names.

Activity 7: The envelope

Draw the moment Eviatar puts the frond in the envelope. Add a caption saying what he writes on it and why he keeps it. Label what is known and what is not known in the picture.





Activity 8: Word grid

Find eight words left to right. Row and column numbering begins at 1.

U	F	E	R	N	V	W	K	H	Z
V	U	X	W	S	O	I	L	P	H
C	A	R	D	X	B	W	T	U	X
Y	W	X	L	E	M	O	N	B	B
K	F	R	O	N	D	Q	U	W	K
V	E	N	V	E	L	O	P	E	X
P	T	V	G	Y	K	E	Y	K	V
J	A	D	E	Z	G	T	G	P	T
G	B	X	B	K	K	B	U	T	Y
T	T	G	W	X	K	Z	X	P	Q

FERN, SOIL, CARD, LEMON, FROND, ENVELOPE, KEY, JADE.

Which two words show what Eviatar was given and what he kept to give back?





Teacher answer key

1. D, B, A, E, C, F. D gives him the card's rules. A and C are things he sees or does himself. B and E are other people's opinions, which do not settle what the fern needs. F tells him the owner read the log and says nothing about the fern.
2. C, S, G, S, C, C. Items 1 and 2 together decide watering (the second-knuckle test); item 4 is something he saw but its cause is unknown. Item 3 is a guess and item 5 is the owner's statement on the card, not something Eviatar could check.
3. Inside the card: check the soil with a finger, turn the lemon a quarter, water when dry down to the second knuckle. Outside the card or hard to undo: cut the brown tips, repot the fern, move it to a different window (reversible, but the card says not to). Open fictional plant: one action inside an owner's written limits, one outside them or hard to reverse.
4. a. 9 days. b. 4 days. c. 4 quarter turns make a full turn; after 3 it has moved three quarters. d. One spot could be an unusually damp or dry patch, so two spots give a better picture. A check never guarantees the cause of a plant's change.
5. Open, with a day and an observation. Examples: "Wed: tips brown. Soil damp at the second knuckle." "Mon: soil dry in two places. Watered." "Fri: frond on floor. Cause unknown." Guesses such as "hates the kitchen" or "someone moved it" are not log lines unless rewritten as unknowns.
6. Open. Example: "It's his plant and he asked me not to. I'll do everything else on the card." A reply should hold the limit without criticizing the friend. The second reply is open and may use a different limit, such as asking the owner first when reachable.
7. Open. A caption might name the date and what was found. Known: where the frond was, the soil state, what he did. Not known: why it fell and whether the fern will recover. No label should state the cause as fact.
8. FERN row 1 columns 2-5; SOIL row 2 columns 5-8; CARD row 3 columns 1-4; LEMON row 4 columns 4-8; FROND row 5 columns 2-6; ENVELOPE row 6 columns 2-9; KEY row 7 columns 6-8; JADE row 8 columns 1-4. What he was given: CARD (and KEY). What he kept to give back: ENVELOPE (for the frond). Accept reasoned variants.

