



Activity 6: Mystery Footprints

How can inferences be made from observations?

You have already made many observations in this unit. You know that observations are made by seeing, smelling, touching, hearing, and sometimes even tasting. They are facts that you obtain using your five senses. Making observations is a skill used in all areas of science, but it is especially important during an investigation.

Resources

• Tracks and Sign Guides


http://www.biokids.umich.edu/guides/tracks_and_sign/


Instructions


1. Complete the chart below using the website *Tracks and Sign Guides*

http://www.biokids.umich.edu/guides/tracks_and_sign/

Field Notes

	Observations	Inference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · How many sets of footprints are there? · Which way are the footprints going? · What do the tracks look like? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · What kind of animal might have left these tracks? · What might the animals be doing?

	Observations	Inference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Which way are the footprints going now? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · What might the animals be doing now?

	Observations	Inference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · How many sets of footprints are there now? · Which way are the footprints going? · Which tracks are left? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · What happened to the source of the other set of tracks that are now gone?