Fern Life Cycle Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Put the stages in order

Write 1, 2, 3... in the boxes to show the order of the fern life cycle.

☐	**Spores** – Tiny spores drop from brown spots under fern leaves.
☐	**Young fern** – After egg and sperm join, a new fern grows from the prothallus.
☐	**Prothallus** – A spore grows into a tiny heart-shaped plant on damp ground.
☐	**Mature fern** – The fern grows big leaves called fronds, which make new spores.

2. Match the word to its meaning

Write the letter next to each word.

1. spore	A. a tiny cell that can grow into a new plant
2. frond	B. the large, feathery leaf of a fern
3. prothallus	C. tiny heart-shaped plant that grows from a fern spore

3. Draw and label

Draw your favourite stage of the fern life cycle and label it.

4. Explain

What happens between the first and last stage?

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Answer key

Correct order

Spores → Prothallus → Young fern → Mature fern

Word match

1–A, 2–B, 3–C

Try this activity

Look under a fern frond with a magnifying glass to find spore cases. Place a frond face down on white paper overnight and see the spore print it leaves behind. Draw and label what you find.

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