Like animals, young plants often grow up and look like the parent plant. However, during the plant life cycle, younger plants might show physical characteristics that are different from the parent plant. Go outside and find plants of the same type that are at different stages in their life cycle. Observe each plant carefully. Look at the size, color, shape and number of leaves. Notice the texture and patterns in the plants body or roots. Then compare and contrast the plants similarities and differences.

**Draw and describe what you notice.**

(example: pine seedling: very flexible trunk, no bark, mature pine: strong trunk and thick bark)

After observing plants and noticing their similarities and differences during life cycle stages, what surprised you? What do your plant observations remind you of?