This sample represents the type of illustration that is often seen in elementary science classes. The point of view appears to be from the top down as well as from the side. This is apparent when we see that the hermit crabs are facing the outside of the terrarium while being on the sand at the bottom. However, rather than illustrate the isopods on or in the sand, they appear to be flying around the hermit crabs. This suggests that the student was very concerned with showing all of the organisms observed.

Another common characteristic of the drawings of younger students is the humanistic characteristics that are given to other organisms. The hermit crabs have humanlike eyes and mouths. It is important to encourage the students to see the organisms as they are and to help the student realize that they do not have the same qualities as humans.

# Terrarium Journal

**Name:** **Date:**

## Terrarium Drawing:

Observe your terrarium carefully and draw what you see.

## Data:

Height of tallest plant: _____ # of crabs: 2

# of plants: _____ # of isopods you can see: 12

## Taking Care of the Terrarium:

Place a check next to the things your group did to the terrarium today.

- ❒ watered the plants
- ❒ added bran flakes to terrarium
- ❒ refilled crab food dish
- ❒ refilled water dish
- ❒ cleaned the food and/or water dishes
- ❒ other: _____

*Scroll down to see another sample

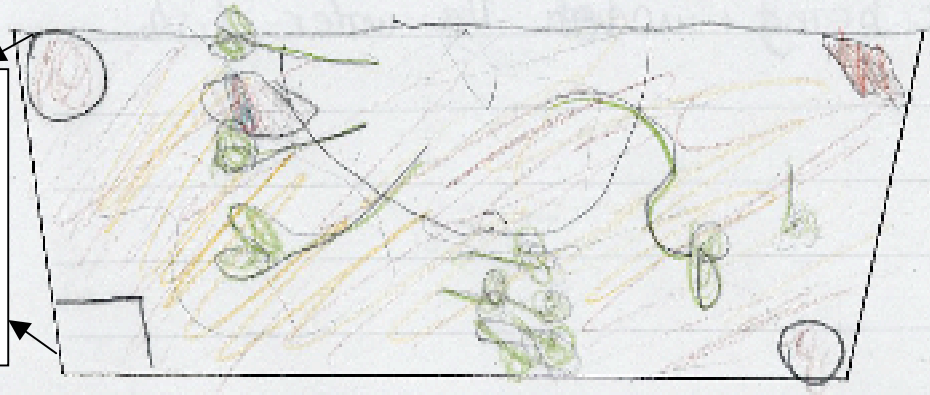
In this entry, the student's illustration is of the view above the aquarium, where the graphic was created to support a side view of the terrarium. This is clear because of the positioning of the items and plants in the picture. The student has illustrated the two hermit crabs and the plants but there seem to be no isopods in the picture. This seems to contradict the student's data where she had recorded observing four isopods.

# Terrarium Journal

**Name:** [redacted] **Date:** [redacted]

## Terrarium Drawing:

Observe your terrarium carefully and draw what you see.



These are food and water dishes as observed from above.

## Data:

Height of tallest plant: 9 in

# of crabs: 2

# of plants: 12

# of isopods you can see: 4

## Taking Care of the Terrarium:

Place a check next to the things your group did to the terrarium today.

- ☐ watered the plants
- ☐ added bran flakes to terrarium
- ☐ refilled crab food dish
- ☐ refilled water dish
- ☐ cleaned the food and/or water dishes
- ☐ other: clear mold

*Scroll down to see more samples.

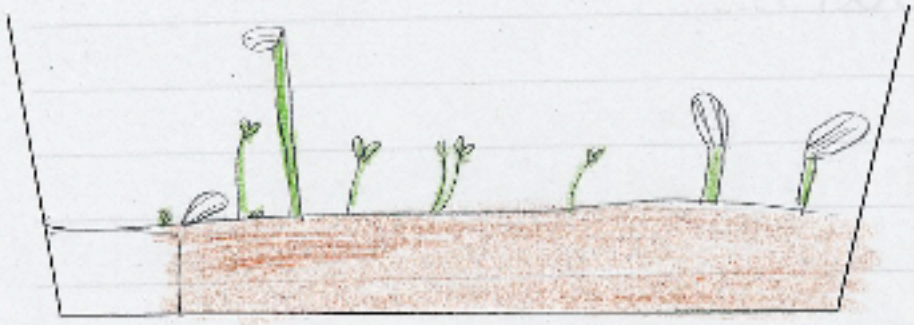
This illustration clearly describes what the student saw. The view from the side of the container is correct. Each type of plant can be distinguished from the other plants because of the attention to specific characteristics of each plant. Another important element to look for is whether the data supports the illustration. This is the case here where the student's observation of no isopods or hermit crabs is reflected in the illustration.

# Terrarium Journal

**Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

## Terrarium Drawing:

Observe your terrarium carefully and draw what you see.



## Data:

Height of tallest plant: 8 cm # of crabs: 0

# of plants: 3 # of isopods you can see: 0

## Taking Care of the Terrarium:

Place a check next to the things your group did to the terrarium today.

- ☑ watered the plants
- ☐ added bran flakes to terrarium
- ☐ refilled crab food dish
- ☐ refilled water dish
- ☐ cleaned the food and/or water dishes
- ☐ other: _____

*Scroll down to see more samples.

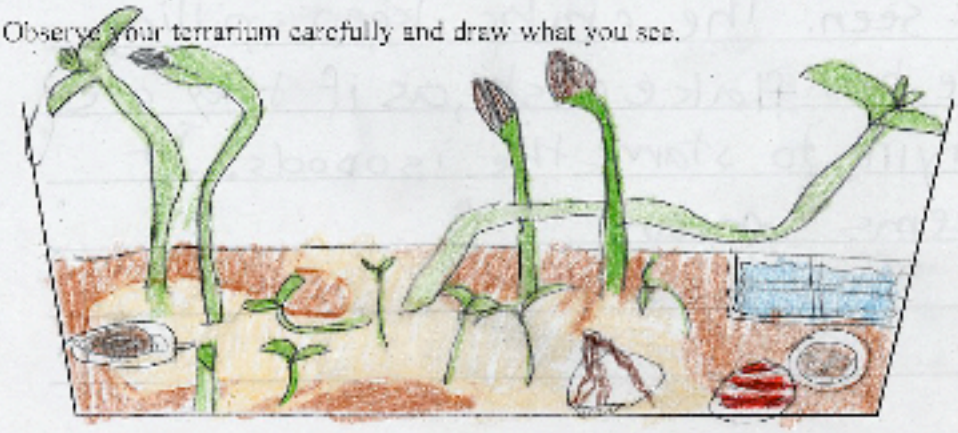
This student has used specific details to accurately illustrate the components of her terrarium. Each type of plant is depicted with its significant characteristics so that the plants can be differentiated from each other. The use of color helps to identify the different shells that were used by the hermit crabs. Another important note would be that the student created the illustration from the proper point of view.

# Terrarium Journal

**Name:**_____ **Date:**

## Terrarium Drawing:

Observe your terrarium carefully and draw what you see.



## Data:

Height of tallest plant: 25 cm # of crabs: 2

# of plants: 19 # of isopods you can see: 6

## Taking Care of the Terrarium:

Place a check next to the things your group did to the terrarium today.

- ☑ watered the plants
- ☑ added bran flakes to terrarium
- ☑ refilled crab food dish
- ☑ refilled water dish
- ☑ cleaned the food and/or water dishes
- ☐ other:_____