The garden in my backyard hummed with the songs of summer twilight. Crickets hiding under lush green foliage chirped around me. Bumblebees buzzed along thick honeysuckle vines bordering the back of the garden. Maple tree leaves rustled in the soft evening breeze.

The setting sun cast shadows on the patches of red clay between the rows of plants. Some plants had flowers. Others bowed with plump red tomatoes, long green beans, shiny chili peppers, or round purple eggplants. On the far left, a watermelon patch sprawled out. Leaves glistened from a recent watering.

In the front right corner, clumps of spiky grass poked from the ground. I pulled one clump and unearthed a small orange carrot. Brushing the damp dirt off, I tossed it into my basket.

Squelch, squelch. My shoes left imprints in the red clay as I moved farther back into the garden. Swatting a mosquito away, my arm brushed against the wet leaves of a tomato plant taller than my knees. I bent down to pluck a slippery ripe cherry tomato and bit into it. Sweet tangy juice oozed out and warmed my tongue. Plunk. Two handfuls of tomatoes joined the lonely carrot in my basket.

Past the tomatoes, a small karela patch spread across the ground. My hand
covered one of the hard oval bumpy green Indian squashes. Although too bitter for me, my mom and dad would relish it. Snip. I cut a few from the vine with my scissors.

To my right, a loki vine climbed so high and thick I couldn’t see through the metal link fence it covered. Light green Indian squashes the size of baseball bats hung from the vine. They were too heavy for me to carry so I left them there.

I moved to my left to a small bare mound between the karela patch and green bean plants. The clay was freshly packed. Yesterday, I had secretly planted a peach pit hoping a tree full of juicy peaches would grow.

A red ladybug sat on a dewy green bean leaf. I snapped a handful of smooth green beans from the fragile plant. Water droplets sprayed my arm. The ladybug fluttered away.

It was time for me to leave too. I ran out of the garden and back to my house where mom would cook our garden dinner.
1. Which of the following vegetables did the boy not put in his basket?
   a. carrot  
   b. tomato  
   c. turnip  
   d. red pepper

2. Circle the karela in the box below.

What evidence from the story helped you determine which vegetable to circle above?

3. Onomatopoeia is a word that imitates the sound that it describes, such as boom or chirp.
   List three examples of onomatopoeia from the story.

4. According to the story, what kind of soil is found in this garden?
   a. fluffy mulch  
   b. grainy sand  
   c. red clay  
   d. thick mud
The Garden
by Anita Nahta Amin

Fill in the missing letters to form a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. i m ___ r ___ n ___
   hint: a mark made by pressing into something

2. t ___ n g ___
   hint: having a pleasantly sharp taste

3. f ___ l i ___ g ___

4. and smells sweet

5. f ___ a ___ ___ l e
   hint: easily broken; delicate; flimsy

6. b ___ t ___ ___ r
   hint: having a bad taste

7. ___ e l i ___ ___
   hint: to enjoy or appreciate

Super Teacher Worksheets - www.superteacherworksheets.com
In the story “The Garden”, the boy experiences his family's garden with his five senses (sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste).

On the lines below, describe your favorite place in nature (your backyard, a park, a hiking trail) using all five senses. Be sure to write in complete sentences.

__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Preview
Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.
The Garden
by Anita Nahta Amin

1. Which of the following vegetables did the boy not put in his basket?
   a. carrot
   b. tomato
   c. turnip
   d. red pepper

2. Circle the ka-ré-la in the box below. What evidence from the story helped you determine which vegetable to circle above?
   The ka-ré-la is oval and bumpy.

3. Onomatopoeia is a word that imitates the sound that it describes, such as boom or chirp. List three examples of onomatopoeia from the story.
   squelch, plunk, snip (You may also want to accept hum, buzz, chirp)

4. According to the story, what kind of soil is found in this garden?
   a. fluffy mulch
   b. grainy sand
   c. red clay
   d. thick mud
The Garden
by Anita Nahta Amin

Fill in the missing letters to form a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. i m p r i n t
   hint: a mark made by pressing into something

2. t a n g y
   hint: having a pleasantly sharp taste

3. f o l i a g e
   hint: leaves on a tree or plant

4. p l u m p
   hint: full and rounded

5. h o n e y s u c k l e
   hint: a climbing plant that has many tiny flowers and smells sweet

6. f r a g i l e
   hint: easily broken; delicate; flimsy

7. b i t t e r
   hint: having a bad taste

8. r e l i s h
   hint: to enjoy or appreciate

     relish