

# Reporting on the Rare Moon-Glow Fern

*Learning objective: To identify and use the features of a non-chronological report, including subheadings, formal language, and technical vocabulary.*

Read the report written by Nova the owl below. Once you have read the text, answer the questions to show your understanding of report writing. Finally, use the drawing prompt to illustrate a new discovery.

The Moon-Glow Fern (*Luna lucidus*) is a fascinating plant found deep within the Whispering Woods. Unlike common garden ferns, this species is nocturnal, meaning it only unfurls its leaves when the moon is at its highest point in the sky. Its appearance is striking, featuring silver-edged fronds that emit a soft, pale blue light. Experts believe this glow helps the plant attract night-flying moths for pollination. In terms of its habitat, the Moon-Glow Fern thrives in damp, shaded areas near trickling streams. It is important to note that this plant is protected; it is illegal to pick or damage them in the wild.

*Word bank: habitat · nocturnal · subheading · classification · scientific · features · appearance*

**1. What does the word 'nocturnal' mean in the context of this report? (2 marks)**

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**2. Identify two physical features of the Moon-Glow Fern mentioned in the text. (2 marks)**

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**3. Why do you think the author chose to include the scientific name '*Luna lucidus*' in brackets? (2 marks)**

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**4. According to the report, why does the Moon-Glow Fern need to glow at night? (2 marks)**

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**5. Why is it important for the text to state that the plant is protected by law? (2 marks)**

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**Draw:** Imagine you have discovered a new species of plant in the forest. Draw your plant and label three of its unique features, such as its leaves, roots, or special glow-in-the-dark parts.



*Extension challenge: Write a new subheading for a section about the diet or 'life cycle' of the Moon-Glow Fern, and write one paragraph to go underneath it using formal, factual language.*