Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Handout \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Observing a Space Creature**

Imagine that you are on a team of astronauts exploring a newly discovered alien planet. While on an away mission, two of your astronaut teammates encountered and interacted with a strange life-form! Your fellow astronauts begin to describe their experience with the new life in detail. It’s up to you to determine whether their statements are “inferences” or “observations” as you record them into the ship’s mission log.

**Directions:** On the line next to the number, label each of the astronaut’s statements about the space alien as either an “inference” or an “observation.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. The organism frowned to show it did not like strangers.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. The organism is green with brown spots.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. The organism lives near other organisms.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. The organism moved away from us because it was afraid.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5. The organism makes gurgling noises.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_6. The organim’s four toes on each foot are webbed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_7. The organism has one green eye and two blue eyes.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_8. The planet must be hot because the creature is sweating.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_9. The organism can turn its head in a complete circle.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ 10. The organism moves slowly, so it must be old.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ 11. The organism picks up objects with the three fingers on its

two hands.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_12. The organism’s arms are longer than its legs.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_ 13. The organism must like to eat yellow plants because it is

holding ten of them.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_14. The organism has no fingernails or toenails.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_15. The organism must jump high because its feet are big.

**Final Task:** On the back of this page make a drawing of the organism. Space explorer rules and regulations state that you can only use direct observations to complete your drawing. No information from the inferences should be present in your picture of the alien, only the information from the observation statements.