

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Roots Of Resilience

**Directions:** Read the short story below told from the point of view of a tree. Then, answer the comprehension and reflection questions that follow.

I was once a tiny seed buried in the dark, cool soil. Sunlight warmed the ground above me, and I stretched upward, eager to meet the sky. As years passed, I grew tall and strong, spreading my branches like open arms. Birds built nests in my leaves, and children rested in my shade.

When autumn arrived, my golden leaves danced to the ground, painting the forest floor. In winter, snow hugged my branches, and I slept beneath a blanket of white. But one spring, the hum of machines echoed through the woods. I trembled as nearby trees were cut down. My roots gripped the soil tighter, hoping to stay. The forest grew quieter each day.

Still, I stand. My trunk bears scars, but I reach for the sun. I dream of a time when new seeds will grow again-when the forest will sing once more.

### Comprehension and Reflection Questions:

1. From whose point of view is this story told?
2. What does the tree experience during the changing seasons?
3. What event changes the tree's peaceful life?
4. How does the tree react to the cutting down of nearby trees?
5. What message do you think the story is trying to share about nature or the environment?
6. Reflection: If you were this tree, what feelings would you have about humans and the forest?
7. Reflection: What actions could people take to protect trees like the one in the story?