

THE AMAZING AMARYLLIS

What can we learn from this picture (about the amaryllis)?



This is a picture of an amaryllis bulb, a pot with soil, and moss sitting on a wood table.

A few weeks ago I sent you this picture and asked ... What do you notice about this picture? Here are some of your answers.

What do you notice about the bulb?

- It's an amaryllis bulb
- It's dry
- No roots
- Looks like the roots were cut off
- No color on the bulb
- No sign of life
- No green shoots emerging out the top
- Bulb is either dead or dormant

What do you notice about the pot?

- It's a clay pot (not plastic)
- It looks old
- It looks used
- It looks 'seasoned'
- It's a lovely old pot
- It's not cracked or broken
- It doesn't look big enough for the bulb

What do you notice about the soil?

- It looks like rich soil
- It has fertilizer in it
- There are nutrients in the soil
- It appears to have an indentation in it

- The soil is a 'vessel'

What do you notice about the moss?

- It's green
- Doesn't look like there's enough of it
- Used to keep moisture in the pot
- Will make a pretty covering over the dirt
- Indicates tender care

What else do you notice about the picture?

- All these things go together
- The picture is nice and bright
- The items are sitting on a table
- The table is made of wood
- The table provides a clean workspace
- Something appears to be missing
- There is no tool present
- There is no water
- The pot and soil take up much of the picture
- These items have the potential for life

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You may or may not be a gardener ... I know I'm not. But you probably know from your own experience (or the experience of others) a little about flowers that are grown from bulbs. You've seen them in garden centers and know about what time of year certain flowers grow.

There are bulbs that are planted in the fall and bloom in the spring ... like the tulip, iris, and daffodil. There are summer blooming bulbs ... like the lily, begonia, and gladiola. And then there are the bulbs that bloom *in the dead of winter* – the amaryllis and paper whites.

An amaryllis grows in winter, when the harvest has come and gone and we're waiting for spring to arrive. When so much feels quiet and still, dead and bare, with no signs of life to be seen, the amaryllis slowly begins to rise.

What can we learn from the amaryllis?

We will start next week with some insights about the amazing amaryllis.

In the meantime ... what are some of your thoughts?