

Name: _____ Due Date: _____

Biome Project Rubric, Instructions, and Research Questions

Poster/Diorama Directions: Choose a biome and create a poster or diorama depicting your chosen biome. The size of your project is not important, as long as you can include plants (min. 4), animals (min. 3), land, and other elements that will increase student understanding of your biome. Your project must include texture and 3D elements such as sandpaper for sand or cotton balls for clouds. There should be no text on your project besides the biome name at the top. Do not print off text from the internet and glue it on your project. When you present your project to the class, it is your responsibility to know what you are talking about! You may make notecards but you should be an **expert** on your chosen biome.

Research Directions: Use your textbook, computer time at school, and resources at home to thoroughly research your biome. Again, you should be an expert on your biome. **Answer the questions in complete sentences and in your own words.** Please remember that plagiarism (copying another person's words down and claiming them as your own) is illegal.

IMPORTANT: Do NOT start this project the night before it is due. You will not have adequate time to construct the poster or diorama and answer the questions properly; that will be reflected in your grade. Again, make sure that YOU do this project yourself. You are old enough to tackle this one on your own! If you have questions, contact the teacher.

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1	0
Attractiveness and Texture (Poster/Diorama)	The project is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness. It includes a good use of texture and/or 3D elements.	The project is attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness. It includes texture and/or 3D elements.	The project is acceptably attractive though it may be a bit messy. It includes little texture and/or 3D elements.	The project is distractingly messy or very poorly designed. It is not attractive. It does not include texture and/or 3D elements.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Accuracy (Poster/Diorama)	All of the plants and animals displayed in the project are accurate to the selected biome.	Most of the plants and animals displayed in the project are accurate to the selected biome.	Few of the plants and animals displayed in the project are accurate to the selected biome.	Little or none of the plants and animals displayed in the project are accurate to the selected biome.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Plant Descriptions (Research Questions)	Four or more plant descriptions are present, clearly presented, and easy to understand.	Three plant descriptions are present, clearly presented, and easy to understand.	Two plant descriptions are present, may not be clearly presented or easy to understand.	One or fewer plant description is present; may not be clearly presented or easy to understand.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Animal Descriptions (Research Questions)	Three or more animal descriptions are present, clearly presented, and easy to understand.	Two animal descriptions are present, clearly presented, and easy to understand.	One animal description is present, may not be clearly presented or easy to understand.	Attempted, but did not complete the section.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Other Required Elements (Research Questions)	The poster includes all required elements as well as additional information.	All required elements are included.	All but 1 of the required elements is included.	Several required elements were missing.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Presentation (Poster/Diorama and Research Questions)	Student presented information in a clear, concise manner and was an expert on the biome.	Student presented information adequately, but may not have been clear on some points.	Student presented information in an unorganized way and may not have been clear on some points.	Student did a poor job of presenting and was not prepared for questions by the teacher and other students.	No effort or did not complete this section.
Source List/Plagiarism (Research Questions)	Student used a variety of sources, used at least 3 different sources, and NO evident of plagiarism.	Student used at least 3 different sources and wrote down all sources used, but there was no variety of sources. (i.e. all internet, no books) 1 or 2 evidences of plagiarism.	Student used 2 different sources and wrote down all sources used OR 3 examples of plagiarism.	Student used 1 different source and OR 4 examples of plagiarism.	No effort or did not complete this section. All information was plagiarized (must redo project.)

Total Score: _____

Comments: _____

Researcher Name: _____ Due Date: _____

Biome Research Questions

- 1) What is your chosen biome? _____
- 2) Why did you select this biome? _____

- 3) What is weather like in your biome? _____

- 4) How much precipitation does your biome receive annually? _____

- 5) Where, in general, can your biome be found? _____

- 6) What was the most interesting fact you found out about your biome? _____

- 7) List and describe at least three animals that live in your chosen biome. Include a physical description of that animal (use descriptive adjectives), what the animal eats, and why that animal lives in the biome you selected. You may include other interesting information as well. If you wish to describe additional animals, please do so in your own handwriting on a loose leaf sheet of notebook paper and attach it to this page. Do not staple internet print-outs to this!

Animal Name	Physical Description	Animal's Diet	Reason for Living in this Biome

- 8) List and describe at least four plants that live in your chosen biome. Include a physical description of that plant (use descriptive adjectives) and why that plant lives in the biome you selected. You may include other interesting information as well. If you wish to describe additional plants, please do so in your own handwriting on a loose leaf sheet of notebook paper and attach it to this page. Do not staple internet print-outs to this!

Plant Name	Physical Description	Reason for Living in this Biome

- 9) What sources did you use to locate your information?

- a. **Source 1** Title : _____
 Author: _____ Main Pages Used: _____
 Where did you find this source? (library, online, textbook) _____
 Web address (if applicable): _____
- b. **Source 2** Title : _____
 Author: _____ Main Pages Used: _____
 Where did you find this source? (library, online, textbook) _____
 Web address (if applicable): _____
- c. **Source 3** Title : _____
 Author: _____ Main Pages Used: _____
 Where did you find this source? (library, online, textbook) _____
 Web address (if applicable): _____