

NITROGEN CYCLE CHILDREN'S BOOK

Now that our lesson on the nitrogen cycle is complete, your group's task is to construct an entertaining and informative children's book based on the criteria from the rubric. Your book must contain colorful illustrations and accurate information. If your book is deemed exceptional by your peers, teacher, or the school librarian, it may be laminated, bound, and placed in the library for check out. You may choose to use the different talents of your group members and divide the work up (research, writing, drawing, coloring/shading, etc.) but each member must contribute the equivalent of 2 pages worth of content for the book!

If your group members cannot identify any contribution you made, you will not get credit for this assignment!

RUBRIC FOR NITROGEN CYCLE CHILDREN'S BOOK

| Criteria | 0 | 1 | 2 | What I think | What my teacher thinks |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|--------------|------------------------|
| EXPLAINS NITROGEN AND NITROGEN COMPOUNDS | Not at all | Book mentions nitrogen but does not explain | Nitrogen and nitrogen compounds are explained in text and drawings | /2 | /2 |
| NITROGEN CYCLE | Not clear in book | An attempt to describe the nitrogen cycle is made but is not very detailed or accurate | A detailed and accurate description of the nitrogen cycle is included in the book text as well as an illustration | /2 | /2 |
| CARBON CYCLE | Not addressed in book | Mentioned but is not explained and includes no illustrations | Explained and includes illustrations along with a comparison to the nitrogen cycle | /2 | /2 |
| NITROGEN IN ECOSYSTEMS | Not addressed in book | An attempt to describe nitrogen's role in an ecosystem is made but is not very informative | A detailed and accurate description of nitrogen's role in an ecosystem is made, including illustrations | /2 | /2 |
| NITROGEN FIXATION | Not addressed in book | An attempt to describe nitrogen fixation is made but is not very detailed or accurate | A detailed and accurate description of nitrogen fixation is included in the book text as well as illustrations | /2 | /2 |
| FECES IN AN ECOSYSTEM | Not addressed in book | An attempt to describe feces' role in an ecosystem is made but is not very informative | A detailed and accurate description of feces' role in an ecosystem is made, including illustrations | /2 | /2 |

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|---|--|---|---|-----|-----|
| PHYTOPLANKTON AND CYANOBACTERIA | Not addressed in book | Phytoplankton or cyanobacteria is mentioned but not both (nor are they explained) | Both phytoplankton and cyanobacteria are explained in detail, including illustrations | /2 | /2 |
| FOOD WEBS | Not clear in book | An attempt to describe food webs are made but are not very detailed or accurate | A detailed and accurate description of food webs are included in the book text as well as illustrations | /2 | /2 |
| TITLE PAGE | None | Has title of story, but nothing else | Has title of the story, an inviting drawing, and group members' names as authors | /2 | /2 |
| APPEARANCE | Sloppy, little planning, not visually pleasing | Planning is evident but not organized well with substandard drawings or lack of color. No cohesive story. | Well planned and revised with vibrant drawings and a cohesive story | /2 | /2 |
| GRAMMAR / MISSPELLINGS | Five or more major errors | Three to four major errors | Up to two major errors | /2 | /2 |
| LENGTH | Under four pages | Four to seven pages | Eight or more pages | /2 | /2 |
| COMPLETED ON TIME | Two days late | One day late | On time | /2 | /2 |
| MY CONTRIBUTION (WORTH 4 TOTAL POINTS) | Less than one page | Responsible for one page of content and/or drawings | Responsible for two or more pages of content and/or drawings | /4 | /4 |
| TOTAL |  | | | /30 | /30 |