**Environmental Issues Research Project**

**Topics 30S**

**Objective:** As a team or on your own, you will create a lesson that teaches the class about an environmental issue. Your lesson will be presented to the class as a Powerpoint or similar presentation.

**Planning**

Choose your topic. The list below gives you some ideas, but you may choose something not on the list. Have your topic approved by Ms Leroux before proceeding.

* Endangered Species (general or focus on one particular species)
* Saving the Rainforests (or wetlands or any other biome in danger)
* Wildlife Conservation (national parks, reserves, hunting)
* Pollution (air, water)
* Global Climate Change
* Energy Conservation (alternate fuels, hybrid cars, the "green movement" )
* Waste Management (recycling, landfills, toxic waste, etc)
* Human Overpopulation (food & water shortages, habitat destruction)
* Genetically modified crops and animals

**Research**

Browse sites related to your topic. Using the research template, jot down information you think will be important (this will be handed in for marks) to include in your final product. If you are working with a partner, you may wish to split up specific tasks.

As you browse the sites related to your topic, think about the following questions that you will need to include in your final project presentation:

* What is the problem?
* How do we know there is a problem (what evidence is there)?
* What causes the problem?
* What are the possible future effects of the problem?
* How will it affect the world?
* What is being done to solve the problem?
* Are there laws related to the topic?
* What can an individual do to help?
* Find a short video or other form of media to include in your project.

**Presentation**

Use Powerpoint or a similar application. The following sequence can serve as a guideline, though you are free to organize it in other ways. A total of 10 slides is appropriate, but you can have more (or less). Try not to clutter a slide with too much information.

**Slide 1 :** Title, names of group members

**Slide 2 :** Attention grabber, put a thought provoking question or image here

**Slides 3-5:** Explain the topic, what is the problem and why is it a problem (do NOT copy and paste information from other websites, use your own words.) Include images to help explain your points and to make your slides more interesting

**Slides 6-8:** Explain what can be done (or what is being done) to solve the problem. You may want to include specific laws and regulations related to your topic here.

**Slides 9-10:** What can one individual do to help? Offer advice and tips to the class about how individuals can help to solve the problem or promote awareness.

**Final Slide:** Summarize or restate the problem/issue; include any image credits or sources

**Marking Rubric**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Unsatisfactory (0-1)** | **Satisfactory (2-3)** | **Good (4-5)** | **Excellent (5-6)** |
| **Creativity** | Does not attempt to open the presentation with some way to spark interest | Attempts to grab attention, students are not engaged to start with | Somewhat interesting and creative. Lacks interaction of class, or class seems disinterested. | Presentation interesting, class attention maintained and interaction is good. Use of creative visuals. |
| **Content 1 (background info, research)** | Team does not have a good grasp of the topic, facts misrepresented, or wrong | Topic is not fully covered, some obvious gaps in knowledge of subject or some major errors | Topic is covered with a fair amount of accuracy and information. Some gaps in knowledge evident | Topic is covered thoroughly, presentation shows a firm understanding of the topic and the issues involved. |
| **Content 2 (solutions)** | No solutions offered to solve the problem | Solutions offered, lacking in relationship or feasibility | Solutions offered, though lack relationship to problem | Solutions offered, advice given to class on how to solve the problem |
| **Organization & Syntax** | Presentation very disorganized, it is impossible to follow | Presentation does not follow an organized pattern, meanders or becomes "off-topic", but can still be followed by audience | Presentation mostly follows a logical sequence, some areas not sequential or or off-topic, some grammar or spelling errors | Presentation follows a logical and orderly sequence and remains on topic. Easy to follow and understand. No major errrors in grammar, punctuation or spelling. |
| **Images/media** | Missing from presentation | Images used, though they are sloppy, unclear, and disorganized | Images used but lack in clarity or relationship to topic | Images used effectively to explain the topic and issues |
| **Presentation** | Presentation lacking | Presentation was not rehearsed. Reading directly from slides or not speaking to the class | Clear voice, somewhat rehearsed, does not add information beyond what is included in slides. | Clear voice, well rehearsed, does not read directly from slides. Shows a good understanding of topic |
| **Presentation Total /36** |
| **Project Planning Total /15**  Research Paper Notes, Use of class time, Working as at team, Meeting due dates.  |