

Ecosystem Project – due Thursday March 2, 2017

Imagine you want to take a trip to one of the many National Parks found in the United States. Which one would you choose and why?

In this assignment, you are to create a slide presentation or brochure that profiles one of the parks using the following criteria:

1. Geographical location (where in the United States)
2. What type of biome is represented?
 - a. General characteristics of that biome
 - b. Climate (yearly weather patterns), temperature, rainfall
3. Flora (plant life) of the park: **3-4 examples**
4. Fauna (animal life) of the park: **3-4 examples**
5. Any special features or characteristics of the park (be sure to include both biotic and abiotic factors)
6. Present a typical food chain for this particular national park. Make sure you include the following: producers, consumer, and decomposers (If you can use the program Inspiration, this makes a terrific food web)

Create a brochure or slide program describing the park you have chosen. Pretend that the brochure/presentation is an advertisement and you are trying to convince travelers to visit the park. Make sure you include the 6 qualifiers listed above. Feel free to incorporate pictures diagrams or illustrations if you like.

Be sure to use the following terms that you learned in this unit where appropriate:

- ♣ Ecosystem
- ♣ Niche
- ♣ Habitat
- ♣ Population
- ♣ Community
- ♣ Carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, scavenger
- ♣ Competition, predation, symbiosis (parasitism, mutualism, commensalism)

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

The National Parks Service web site gives you access to information about all of our nation's parks. This is the site you will be using to conduct your research along with reference materials from the library. You may use other web sites as well but need to list these as a reference, along with any books used.

<http://www.nps.gov>

In addition to the given requirements, please include 1-2 of the following items in your brochure:

- ♣ Appropriate humor (i.e., cartoon, comic) having to do with ecology of the region (Far Side comic?)
- ♣ 1-2 interesting historical facts about the park
- ♣ Pick one organism (plant, animal, or other) from the park and write a brief profile on that organism
- ♣ A small Word Find or crossword puzzle about ecology
- ♣ Pictures, illustrations, graphics, diagrams
- ♣ Some "fun facts" about the park

ECOSYSTEM PROJECT RUBRIC

Name: _____

Class: _____

REQUIREMENTS	POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS EARNED
Geographical location mentioned	5	
Biome described clearly (includes climate, temp, and rainfall)	15	
At least 3 examples of flora (plant life)	10	
At least 3 examples of fauna (animal life)	10	
Special characteristics of the park	15	
Food chain including producers, consumers, and decomposers	15	
Correct use of vocabulary	5	
At least 2 of the additional items	10	
Spelling and correct use of grammar	5	
Appearance (neatness, attention to detail)	10	