

Science in the News

Name _____ Date _____

	4	3	2	1
Article Relevance	Article meets all 3 : ✓ Recent ✓ Reliable resource ✓ News based	Article meets 2 : ✓ Recent ✓ Reliable resource ✓ News based	Article meets only 1 : ✓ Recent ✓ Reliable resource ✓ News based	Article does not meet any: ✓ Recent ✓ Reliable resource ✓ News based
Key Points	Highlights 3 key points in the article.	Highlights 2 key points in the article.	Highlights 1 key point in the article.	Does not highlight KEY points in the article.
Summary	Accurate summary in your words; Paragraph should explain WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, HOW ; Include important information.	Partially accurate summary in your words; Paragraph should explain WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, HOW ; Include important information.	Not summarized or Copied sentences directly from article.	Summary does not match what is written in the article.
Opinion & Reaction: Your opinion and reaction should demonstrate higher level thinking about your article.	✓ What did you find interesting? ✓ What did you learn? ✓ What do you think about information presented in the article? Shows deep reflection on information from article.	✓ What did you find interesting? ✓ What did you learn? ✓ What do you think about information presented in the article? Shows some reflection on information from article.	✓ What did you find interesting? ✓ What did you learn? ✓ What do you think about information presented in the article? Shows little reflection on information from article.	Does not express opinion about the article or does not elaborate on the opinion.
Questions	Lists three questions you would like to ask the author or someone in the article. Should demonstrate thinking beyond the facts.	Lists two questions you would like to ask the author or someone in the article. Should demonstrate thinking beyond the facts.	Lists one question you would like to ask the author or someone in the article. Should demonstrate thinking beyond the facts.	Does not list questions or lists questions that do not go beyond the article because they can be answered from reading the article.

Science in the News

The objective of the science in the news report is to show you how relevant science is to your daily life. Even if you do not chose to become a doctor or forest ranger it is my hope as a teacher that you will always understand that science has a very real and important connection to your life. The objective of the assignment is to find an article in a newspaper, magazine, or off of the internet that relates to science.

Directions:

Article Relevance: The article you choose should be recent (not more than 5 years old), reliable (come from a valid resource, such as Time for Kids, Science News for Kids, National Geographic, Discovery Kids, etc. You can find links on Portaportal.); and it should be news based. An article that simply explains the types of amphibians is not an example because that information can be found in a textbook or encyclopedia. Instead, an article that tells about how amphibians are migrating due to climate change is good. Remember, you're focusing on Science in the NEWS.

Key Points: As you read the article, demonstrate that you can pick out the most important facts by highlighting key points of the article. If you don't see three key points as you read, try re-reading; or you may need to find an article that is more suitable.

Summary: Write a paragraph summarizing the article. The paragraph should explain WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, HOW. It must be in your own words, and not be copied sentences from the article. The summary paragraph should contain at least a topic sentence, three supporting sentences, and a conclusion sentence. It should be at least 5 sentences, but no more than 8 sentences. If you cannot come up with at least three supporting sentences then your article is probably too short, and you should find a new one.

Opinion and Reaction: Your opinion and reaction should show deep reflection on the article. It should be a paragraph long (5-8 sentences) and should respond to the following questions: What did you find interesting? What did you learn? What do you think about the information in the article? You can also consider these questions: What effects will the information discussed in the article have on people, nature, etc.? Do you see any potential problems or concerns? If the article does not inspire an opinion then you need to find another one.

Questions: If you had the opportunity to talk to the author or someone else mentioned in the article, what would you ask? List 3 questions that go beyond the information presented in the article. Your questions should show deep thought about what you read. They should not be "quiz questions" whose answers can be found in the article. The questions should be focused on the scientific principles discussed in the article. Asking the author, "Do you like studying the ecology?" would not be example because it is a personal question. A better question would be, "How will communities pay for this type of water filtration system?"