**Characteristics of Life**

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|  | **Mammals** | **Insects** | **Invertebrates** | **Plants** | **Bacteria** | **Compare/Contrast** |
| **Reproduction** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cells and Organization** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Energy Use** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Adaptations to Environment** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Homeostasis/ Response to Stimuli** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Growth & Development** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Characteristics of Life: Virtual Poster Gallery Walk**

1. Research and take notes on the characteristics of life for an organism within your assigned classification group: mammal, insect, invertebrate, or plant

my specific organism: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Some questions to guide your research (you may not answer ALL of these questions for your organism):*

**Growth/Development:**

* What are the different stages of growth for different organisms (ex: metamorphosis)?
* Does the organism live in the same environment throughout its entire life stage (ex: tadpole vs. frog)?
* What is the lifespan of the organism? Are there any specific developments in the lifespan?
* How are the offspring cared for (ex: dependent offspring or are offspring self-sufficient after birth)?

**Energy**:

* How do organisms obtain their energy? Heterotopic or autotrophic (define this vocab if needed)?
* Is the organism a herbivore, omnivore, or carnivore?
* What does the organism use energy for?

**Reproduction**:

* How does your organism reproduce? Internal or external? Sexual or asexual?
* How does the organism attract mates? (ex: colorful feathers of the peacock)

**Cells & Organization**:

* Is the organism unicellular or multicellular? Prokaryote or eukaryote? Plant vs. animal cells?
* What is the distinguish organization of your organism?

**Adaptations**:

* What are some adaptations to help the organism survive its environment (ex: camouflage; cacti in desert)?

**Response to Stimuli, Homeostasis**:

* How does the organism maintain homeostasis (ex: regulating body temperature)?
* What are some examples of the stimuli and responses of the organism?

1. Join your classification group, and discuss the similarities & differences in how the organisms in that group fit within the characteristics of life definition
2. As a group, create a visual presentation in the Educreation app (text and pictures) displaying the characteristics of life for the classification group
3. Gallery Walk: observe and take notes on the other characteristics of life for the other groups
4. Compare and contrast the characteristics of life amongst the different classification groups

**Characteristics of Life: Virtual Poster Gallery Walk**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Advanced  4 | Proficient  3 | Developing  2 | Needs Improvement  1 |
| **Characteristic Overview**  Definition/ Description of the characteristic of life | Each characteristic of life is clearly and accurately described. Important vocabulary is defined and stated in the students’ own words to accurately reflect the purpose of the characteristic. | Most characteristics of life are described and important vocabulary is defined, with an explanation stated in the students’ own words. | The student identifies some characteristic of life and offers an explanation that is stated directly from the textbook. | The student identifies some characteristic of life, but does not elaborate in describing or defining the characteristic and its importance to life. |
| **Content**  Answers questions relevant to the characteristic of life | All guiding questions relevant to the characteristics of life are considered and thoroughly and accurately described on the virtual poster. | All questions relevant to the characteristic of life are considered and accurately described on the poster. | Some questions relevant to the characteristics of life are described on the virtual poster. | Some questions relevant to the characteristic of life are considered on the poster. |
| **Examples**  Examples of organisms to demonstrate the characteristic of life | The poster includes at least 3 examples of specific organisms to illustrate the importance of each characteristic of life. | The poster includes at least 2 examples of specific organisms to illustrate each characteristic of life. | The poster includes 1 example of an organism to illustrate each characteristic of life. | The poster does not include specific examples of organisms representing each characteristic of life. |
| **Visuals**  Visuals to enhance the poster presentation | The poster incorporates at least 4 visuals that enhance the poster in accurately representing the characteristics of life. | The poster incorporates at least 3 visuals that enhance the poster in accurately representing the characteristics of life. | The poster incorporates at least 2 visuals that enhance the poster in representing the characteristics of life. | The poster does not include visual examples of the characteristic of life. |
| **Neatness**  Overall neatness, organization, and spelling | The poster is neat in appearance, indicating the use of planning and an organized format to present the information.  There are no spelling/ grammatical errors. | The poster is neat in appearance, indicating the use of planning to present all information.  There are 1-2 spelling/ grammatical errors. | The lack of formatting and neatness distract from the information being presented.  There are 3-5 spelling/ grammatical errors. | Information on the poster is not organized.  There are multiple (>5) spelling/ grammatical errors. |