

Young Naturalist Awards 2013

Essay Checklist

Requirements

- ☐ The essay word length is between:
 - 500-2,000 words (grades 7-8);
 - 1,000-2,500 (grades 9-10);
 - 1,500-3,500 (grades 11-12)
- ☐ The essay, including all visual aids does not exceed 20 pages.
- ☐ The essay includes photographs (required).
- ☐ All graphs, charts, tables, art work and photographs are my own work.
- ☐ All references are properly cited in the bibliography.

Personal Voice

- ☐ The essay conveys my personal interest in the subject.
- ☐ The essay describes my investigation.

Focus of Investigation

- ☐ My question is clearly defined.
- ☐ I formulated a testable hypothesis or described the goal of my investigation.

Procedure

- ☐ My plan to gather data was clearly outlined.
- ☐ I clearly described where, when, and how I gathered my data.
- ☐ My data was systematically recorded.

Analysis and Interpretation

- ☐ I collected sufficient data to answer my question.
- ☐ I analyzed the data and drew conclusions
- ☐ I determined whether the data supported or rejected my hypothesis.

OR

- ☐ I determined whether the data helped me achieve the goal of the investigation.

Clarity and Style

- ☐ My essay follows a logical progression of ideas.
- ☐ I checked spelling and grammar