Story: "Life of a Tree" - Marking Criteria

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| SCIENCE Objectives | Analyzes and solves problems through scientific reasoning | Is unable to begin the process to investigate, analyze, and identify potential cause and effect of events in a tree's lifetime. Condition effects on tree cookies are not explained. | Is able to begin the process to investigate, analyze, and identify potential cause and effect of events in a tree's lifetime. Condition effects on tree cookie are not explained for each event or very briefly mentioned. | Is able to investigate, analyze, and identify potential cause and effect of events in a tree's lifetime. Condition effects on tree cookie are briefly explained for each event. | Is able to investigate, analyze, and identify potential cause and effect of events in a tree's lifetime in a clear and concise manner. Condition effects on tree cookie are explained in detail for each event. |
| | Develops skills for inquiry and communication | Is unable to communicate the scientific information within the story. No scientific terms/ vocabulary is used. | Is able to communicate the scientific information within the story in a basic sense. Scientific vocabulary is infrequently used throughout story. | Is able to clearly communicate the scientific information within the story. Some scientific vocabulary is used throughout to demonstrate scientific understanding. | Is able to effectively communicate the scientific information within the story in a way that is clear, concise, and complete. Scientific vocabulary is used all the time throughout story to demonstrate excellent scientific understanding. |
| LANGUAGE ARTS Objectives | Writes to develop, organize and express information and ideas | Organizes and develops story structure in a confusing and ineffective manner. Requires support. No creative description is used to enhance the story. Story lacks consistent "voice". | Organizes and develops story structure in a simplistic but somewhat appropriate manner using some paragraphs where necessary and use of simple sentence structure. Some support required to enhance flow and org. Creative description is infrequently used to enhance the story. Tree "voice" requires more enhancing. | Organizes and develops story structure in a systematic and logical manner using paragraphs and simple sentences to enhance flow. Some creative description is used and effectively enhances some parts of the story. Voice of the tree is usually clear & effective throughout story. | Organizes and develops story structure in a skillful and purposeful manner using paragraphs and sentence structure variation to enhance the flow. Creative description is used and is highly effective in enhancing the story. Voice of tree consistently shines through the entire story. |
| | Manages and evaluates information and ideas | Peer/self editing/revision is not evident as many errors are present that affect the meaning of ideas. | Peer/self-editing & revision is somewhat evident. Some errors still present that <i>may</i> affect the meaning of ideas at times. | Peer/self-editing is evident. Few errors may be present but rarely affect the meaning of ideas. | Peer/self- editing is evident. No errors are present. |