**GRADE 4 ENDANGERED SPECIES FEATURE ARTICLE RUBRIC**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **CONTENT** | **There is one clear, well-focused topic-angle. Main idea stands out and is supported by relevant, detailed information. Quotes and research clearly support angle. Appropriate MLA bibliography is listed after the ending.** | **There is mostly one clear, well-focused topic-angle. Main idea stands out and is mostly supported by relevant, detailed information. Quotes and research mostly support angle. Bibliography is listed after the ending.** | **Focus could be clearer. Main idea could stand out better. Supporting evidence could be more relevant and detailed. Quotes and research need to more clearly support angle. Bibliography may or may not be listed.** | **Focus is unclear. Main idea is not evidence. There are hardly any relevant supporting details-evidence. There are no quotes and little research evident. There is no bibliography listed.** |
| **ORGANIZATION** | **Lead is engaging and inviting, nut graf is not in the first paragraph, transitions are smooth and sections are clearly organizaed in sub-headings with appropriate info-details in each one.- Ending leaves reader wanting to think and know more about the topic.** | **Lead is mostly engaging and inviting, nut graf is not in the first paragraph, transitions are mostly smooth and sections are mostly clearly organizaed in sub-headings with mostly appropriate info-details in each one.- Ending leaves reader wanting to think and know more about the topic.** | **Lead could be more engaging and inviting, nut graf may or may not be in the first paragraph, transitions could be smoother and sections could be more clearly organizaed in sub-headings with appropriate info-details in each one.- Ending does not strongly leave reader wanting to think and know more about the topic.** | **Lead is missing or not engaging and inviting, nut graf is not included at all, transitions are awkward and sections are not clearly organizaed—do not contain sub-headings with appropriate info-details in each one.- No conclusion or ending does not leave reader wanting to think and know more about the topic.** |
| **LANGUAGE-VOICE** | **Writer’s voice-style is clearly evident (with use of second person narrative). Lots of descriptive and figurative language is contained. Piece “sings” to its audience-It is obvious that writer is a passionate and compassionate expert on the topic. But it doesn’t sound like a research report.** | **Writer’s voice-style is mostly evident (with use of second person narrative). A sufficient amount of descriptive and figurative language is contained. Piece mostly “sings” to its audience-It is mostly obvious that writer is a passionate and compassionate expert on the topic. It mostly does not sound like a research report.** | **Writer’s voice-style could be more clearly evident (with use of second person narrative). More descriptive and figurative language is needed . Piece nneds to sing more strongly. to its audience-It is not obvious that writer is a passionate and compassionate expert on the topic. It may sound like a research report.** | **Writer’s voice-style is not clearly evident at all. Little or no descriptive and figurative language is contained. Piece does not sing at all—It is not apparent at all that writer is a passionate and compassionate expert on the topic. It may sound like a research report or not sound like much of anything!** |
| **CONVENTIONS** | **Writer makes no errors in spelling, capitalization or punctuation. Verb tenses agree. Article is exceptionally easy to read.** | **Writer makes few errors in spelling, capitalization or punctuation. Verb tenses mostly agree. Article is mostly easy to read.** | **Writer makes some errors in spelling, capitalization or punctuation. Verb tensesdo not always agree. Article could be easier to read.** | **Writer contains several errors in spelling, capitalization or punctuation. Verb tenses do not agree. Article is not easy to read.** |
| **REVISION** | **It is clearly evident he writer tried new strategies to strengthen the angle and entire piece while not merely re-copying the first draft.** | **It is mostly clearly evident the writer tried new strategies to strengthen the angle and entire piece while not merely re-copying the first draft.** | **It should be more clearly evident that the writer tried new strategies to strengthen the angle and entire piece while not merely re-copying the first draft.** | **It is not evident at all that the writer tried new strategies to strengthen the angle and entire piece while not merely re-copying the first draft.** |
| **PRESENTATION-FORMAT** | **Two column format or another appropriate newsletter format is used. Headlines, subheading, photos and captions are contained (caption font is smaller than the rest) and bolded. Font selected is easy to read. Writer’s byline is contained. Article is properly formatted so there is little white space. There is a relevant sidebar( that contains something like “fun facts” or a “did you know that?” info)** | **Two column format or another appropriate newsletter format is used. Headlines, subheading, photos and captions are mostly contained (caption font is smaller than the rest) and bolded. Font selected is mostly easy to read. Writer’s byline is contained. Article is mostly properly formatted so there is little white space. There is a relevant sidebar( that contains something like “fun facts” or a “did you know that?” info)** | **Two column format or another appropriate newsletter format may or may not be used. Headlines, subheading, photos and captions may or may not be contained (caption font is smaller than the rest) and bolded. Font selected is easy to read. Writer’s byline may or may not be contained. Article is properly formatted so there is little white space. There is a relevant sidebar( that contains something like “fun facts” or a “did you know that?” info)** | **Two column format or another appropriate newsletter format is not used. Headlines, subheading, photos and captions are not contained (caption font is smaller than the rest) and bolded. Font selected is easy to read. Writer’s byline is not contained. Article is improperly formatted so there is lots of white space. There is a not a relevant sidebar( that contains something like “fun facts” or a “did you know that?” info)** |