Great Lakes Ecosystem Field Guide

A field guide is just that, a book you could take out into the "field" or wilderness that would help you to know the types of organisms you might encounter in that certain area. There are field guides for all types of organisms. Most common are field guides for vertebrates like birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians but there are also field guides for insects, flowers, trees and more.

Your task is to research different types of living organisms found in a Great Lakes Ecosystem and to create a field guidebook of those organisms. Using a variety of resources you will identify the organisms you would like to include in your field guide, complete research, take notes and write the field guide page for that organism.

Requirements for the book include:

(Check-off each item as it is completed)

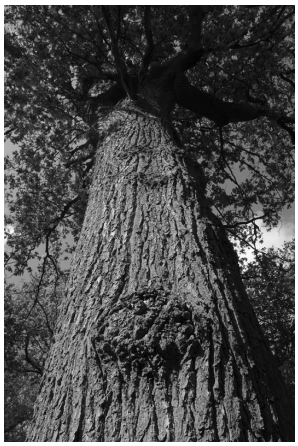
- Must be published and bound with an illustrated cover and author's name. (5pts)
- Must have an organized table of contents. For example, you may organize the book according to type of classification like mammal, fish, bird. (5pts)
- Organisms included in the book must be found in a Great Lakes Ecosystem. All of the organisms included must be from the same ecosystem. Choose from one of the following: Forest, Wetland, Dune, Lake, and Prairie. Must include a **minimum of 10 organisms**.(16pts/organism)

  - ✓ Physical Characteristics
  - ✓ Common name and Latin name of organism
  - ✓ Behavior
  - ✓ Habitat
  - ✓ Rearing Young
  - ✓ One or more adaptations
  - ✓ An example harmful competition to population of the organism (For example: Gray squirrels and fox squirrels competing for acorns and forest trees competing for light).

Requirements Continued:

- ✓ Other interesting facts, at least one paragraph long and include:
  - Unusual characteristics or abilities
  - History, folklore, legends regarding the organism
  - Personal reasons for choosing the organism
- ✓ Illustration (colored)
- ✓ Range on U.S. Map

- At least **<u>two</u>** organisms included in the book must be a producer. (16pts/organism)
  - ✓ Physical characteristics
  - ✓ Specific location within ecosystem
  - ✓ Harvest (How and when can the producer be harvested?)
  - ✓ Illustration
  - ✓ Attracts (what species does the producer attract?)
  - ✓ Blooming Period
  - ✓ Range on U.S. Map
  - ✓ Interesting facts



- Must have a meaningful dedication. (5pts)
- Must be neat and organized. (5pts)
- Must be typed, 12 font , Ariel or Times New Roman font and double spaced. (5pts)