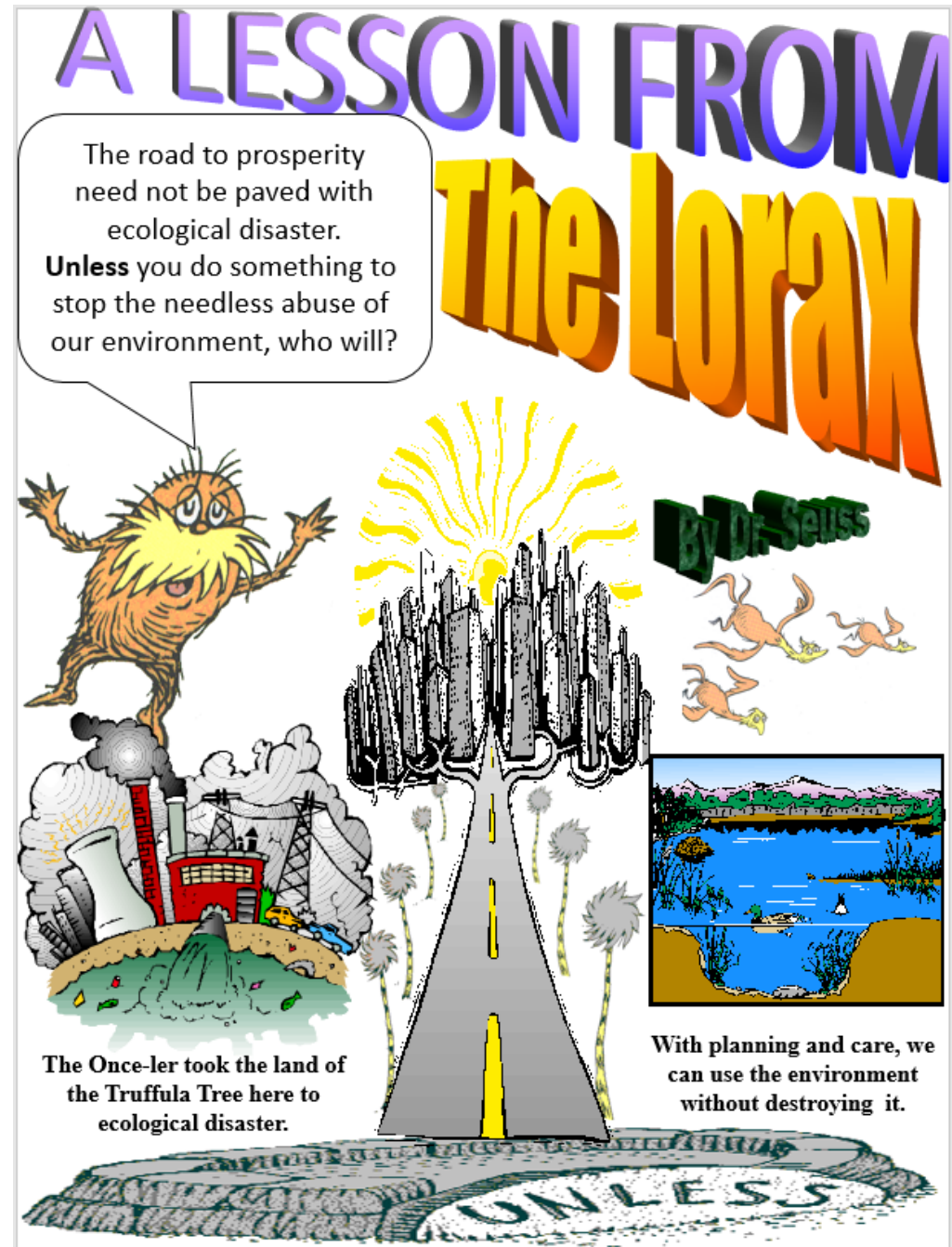


Sample Book Project and Oral Presentation

On the day of your presentation you will need an approved project, a typed oral presentation, and a signed reading log that you've used to document your reading.



Book Project Oral Presentation

Introduction

Man's use of the environment to meet our needs is nothing new. Since the beginning of time man has taken what he needed from Mother Nature and she has generously provided for him. She has provided animals for clothing and food, plants for food and shelter. However, the industrial use of the environment is relatively new. Within the last 150 years Mother Nature has suffered due to irresponsible misuse of her resources. One need only look to the devastation of South America's Rainforests and the pollution of Europe's Lakes and Rivers. Has humanities lust for profit made us blind to the importance of properly caring for our environment? Who will fix the damage that we've already done, and who will prevent further damage? "Unless" you do, there may be little hope for our future. Dr. Suess raises those questions and suggests a solution in his widely-told children's story, "The Lorax." "The Lorax" may be a children's story, but it addresses a very adult issue: Who will save our planet from out of control, irresponsible industrial abuse? The main character in "The Lorax" is the Once-ler. He is an entrepreneur and inventor who searches the country for an opportunity and finds it in the land of the truffula tree. The Once-ler is motivated by one thing, money. And he's motivated by his drive for personal success. Unfortunately, that goal blinds him to the damage he does until finally he destroys even his own means of support, the beautiful truffula tree.

Plot Summary

The story begins with a boy trying to find out why he lives in such a dismal place. He has heard that Once-ler may have the answers and he seeks him out and pays to hear his story. Once-ler tells how he originally came to the beautiful land of the truffula and built a wonderful business cutting the trees and manufacturing Thneeds. He tells of how a little wining creature that called himself Lorax repeatedly warned him to stop the cutting of the trees because he was damaging the environment for all the animals, and he tells of how his drive to make money caused him to turn a deaf ear to the Lorax's warnings. Eventually, all the animals are sent away, his business fails after he chops the last of the trees, and finally even the Lorax abandons the area, leaving nothing but a cryptic message in a pile of stones.

Review

I liked this story because Dr. Suess brilliantly makes a rather complex message understandable to even the youngest of children...the very same audience that he might argue is the ultimate solution to the damage that we Once-lers have already done to our environment. If we fail to protect our environment and fail to fix the damage that we've already done to it, then we are the ones who will ultimately suffer.

Project

My project focuses on that message. I used PowerPoint to construct an image reflecting the message of the Lorax. In the picture, The Lorax is letting the viewer know that we don't have to sacrifice the environment to achieve economic prosperity. The road to our future is a two-lane highway. If we travel the right path, protect our environment, and use it responsibly, we can achieve success that is mutually beneficial to all. But, if we take the wrong lane and fail to properly manage the use our natural resources, we will ultimately be consumed by that decision.

Conclusion

"The Lorax" points out that it is a choice. Unfortunately, generations before us have made some poor choices and created damage that needs to be resolved. The Lorax's message is aimed at the generation Dr. Suess felt was the ultimate solution to the environmental problems that currently exist. Our children will either be the ones who fix the damage that has already been done and prevent further damage or be the ones who do nothing and ultimately suffer because of it. Dr. Suess makes it clear to the reader what that choice should be. His message in the pile of rocks is for all of us. "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."

Name _____ Title/Author _____ Total Score _____

Date of presentation _____

Physical Product Rubric (should be 3 or above to be presented)				50%
	4	3	2	1
General Appearance, Completeness, & Organization	Project is beautifully constructed w/masterful use of detail and attention to spatial relationships	Project is attractive and demonstrates adequate use of detail and space.	Evidence of some planning but inadequate use of space and less than expected attention to detail.	Project appears constructed w/o adequate planning and attention to detail.
Creativity	Reflects unique or inventive thinking tying visual elements of project to underlying themes.	Reflects creative use of detail to communicate significant element(s) of the story.	Reflects shallow or inadequate relationship between project and story.	Does not demonstrate thoughtful relationship between project and story.
Materials & Workmanship	Enhance overall appearance	Positively contribute to general appearance.	Damaged or in need of quality control.	Not suitable for acceptable project.
Overall Impression	Goes beyond the book. Very impressive	Adequate representation of the book.	Falls short	Inadequate effort

Comments:

Physical Product Score _____

Written & Oral Presentation Rubric				50%
	4	3	2	1
Poise and Preparation	High level of planning and preparation is evidenced by confident and organized presentation, which falls within allotted time.	Adequate level of planning and preparation is reflected in reasonably smooth presentation, which falls within allotted time.	Poise and composure indicate need for additional preparation and planning. Time parameters may also be a concern.	Obvious lack of preparation contributes to deficiency in poise, composure and observance of time requirements.
Content	Rich, and reflective. Creatively communicates thematic relationships found within story.	Sufficiently addresses the five required elements of the presentation.	Loosely organized and/or superficially addresses the required elements of the presentation.	Does not reflect a thorough understanding or adequate reading of the book.
Knowledge	Presentation & response to questions reflects a thorough understanding of the book and its related themes.	Presentation & response to questions reflects a basic understanding of the book and its related themes.	Presentation & response to questions reflects a superficial understanding of the book and its related themes	Presentation & response to questions reflects an inadequate reading or understanding of the book.

Within a four to five-minute period of time, student will present an oral presentation of their book and related project that addresses five components:

Oral Presentation Suggested Format

The oral presentation should generally follow the organizational pattern of an expository paper.

1. Introduction (Themes, primary issues, and main characters)
2. Plot Summary
3. Personal Review
4. Project Explanation
5. Conclusion

The parts following the introduction should support thematic points that you make in your introduction.

Comments:

Oral Presentation Score _____