INSTRUCTOR: MS. WIMBERLY

COURSE: AP BIOLOGY

PROJECT SUMMARY

- Students will develop a conservation proposal for an endangered species, using their understanding of natural selection and evolution. Students will research the species, analyze how environmental pressures are affecting it, and predict its evolutionary future. Finally, they will propose practical solutions to help preserve the species.

DRIVING QUESTION

- How can we use our understanding of natural selection to protect endangered species?

SUSTAINED INQUIRY & AUTHENTICITY

- Students are guided through research phases that require them to gather information, analyze data, and apply scientific reasoning about natural selection and evolution over time. This project encourages deep learning and continuous investigation. The project is based on real-world problems and students act as conservation biologists. This is authentic and relevant to real scientific and ecological challenges.

STUDENT VOICE & CHOICE WITH PUBLIC PRODUCTS

- Students will present their projects in class.

TEACHER REFLECTION

- The Saving a Species PBL helped students learn about the species of their choice and the challenges they face to survive. It was interesting to learn how many of these challenges are similar across diverse regions of Earth. Students did an excellent job with the creation of their conservation plans and their presentations. In the future, I would like to find a way to make their products more public, such as sharing them with a broader audience.

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

- "This project strengthened my skills in digital organization and research, such as finding credible sources and creating a research document and filing to keep these sources. This allowed my group and I to review our sources and record our reflections on each piece."
- "I learned how to better manage time and not rely on anyone's word, checking to make sure things get done before assuming."

NOTED SKILLS GAINED

- CRITICAL THINKING
- DECISION-MAKING
- ORGANIZATION
- ADAPTABILITY

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