

CER Rubric

Prompt: Construct an argument explaining how human consumption of water resources has impacted the Santa Cruz River.

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Claim	My claim completely answers the question and includes both how humans changed the river and whether restoration has helped .	My claim answers the question.	My claim only answers part of the question or is unclear.	I did not write a claim or my claim does not answer the question.
Evidence	I used 4 or more pieces of evidence from class (graphs, photos, maps, biodiversity data, field trip observations, etc.).	I used 3 pieces of evidence from class.	I used 1–2 pieces of evidence.	I used no evidence or my evidence does not relate to my claim.
Reasoning	I explained how every piece of evidence supports my claim using science ideas about water, habitats, or biodiversity.	I explained how most of my evidence supports my claim.	I explained some of my evidence, but parts are missing or unclear.	I did not explain how my evidence supports my claim.
Science Vocabulary	I correctly used 5 or more science vocabulary words.	I correctly used 3–4 science vocabulary words.	I correctly used 1–2 science vocabulary words.	I used no science vocabulary or used it incorrectly.
Organization	My CER includes a claim, evidence, and reasoning. It is organized, easy to read, and complete.	My CER has all three parts with only minor mistakes.	One part is missing or difficult to follow.	More than one part is missing or incomplete.