



Name: _____

Fundamentals of Life Science 2: **Week 2 HOMEWORK CHECKLIST**

3rd & 4th Grades

Due on September 6th

_____ **(5 points) Parent Homework**

Make sure a parent has checked and READ the summary and parent information on the class webpage. This is how I communicate to the parents each week AND where you will find links for the homework videos. Parents, please initial here that you did your homework! _____

_____ **(5 points) Read Lesson 1: Placing the Pieces in the Big Picture**

_____ **(5 points) Read Lesson 2: What's For Dinner? Energy!**

****This will be the only week that you will have TWO reading lessons in one week.**

The reading lessons were handed out in class and should be in the front of your binder. Read the lessons or have a parent read them to you if needed. It is not required for 3rd & 4th grades, but it is encouraged to begin practicing note taking skills by neatly highlighting or underlining the main points in the lesson as you are reading. This is a study skill that will help you connect with what you are reading, become independent learners, and help you to retain the information. When you are finished, put the lesson behind the lesson page tab of your binder. Please keep all reading lesson sheets. These will serve as your textbook.

_____ **(20 points) Reinforcement and Review: Ecosystems and Food Chains**

Watch the following videos to review what we have learned so far. They will be listed on the class webpage for easy access:

Understanding Ecosystems for Kids (FreeSchool): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJETOQ49Yjc>

Fabulous Food Chains (CrashCourseKids): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUKs9o1s8h8>

Food Chains (StudyJams): <https://studyjams.scholastic.com/studyjams/jams/science/ecosystems/food-chains.htm>

Food webs (StudyJams): <https://studyjams.scholastic.com/studyjams/jams/science/ecosystems/food-webs.htm>

_____ **(10 points) Field Journal Activity—Ecological Levels of Organization**

In class you were given an envelope with a piece of string and a color printout of the ecological levels of organization. Illustrated instructions for this activity will be posted in the pdf section of the class webpage. Carefully follow the instructions for page 9 of your field journal.

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_____ **(10 points) Observe and Journal Your Backyard Ecosystem (HOMEWORK GRADE)**

Go “into the field” of your backyard and scientifically observe what you find. What do you see, feel, hear, smell? Get down on the ground. Look up in the sky. What living things do you observe? What non-living things do you observe? Do you observe any interactions? What are you surprised or curious about? Does anything you observe spark a question? Make inferences about what you observe. At the top of page 16 of your field journal write the title, “My Backyard Ecosystem.” Record, sketch, and label the observations you make of your backyard. Label the things you find as either living (label with a “B” for biotic) or non-living (label with an “A” for abiotic). **Third Graders need to record at least four observations and fourth graders need to record at least five observations. The more observations, the better,** but please record at least the minimum amount so you are training yourself to observe like a scientist!

_____ **(10 points) Make a Food Chain of Your Backyard Ecosystem (HOMEWORK GRADE)**

On the top of page 17 of your field journal, write the title, “A Backyard Food Chain.” Next, draw a sun towards the top of the page since all food chains start with the energy from the sun. Then, review what you recorded on page 16 and think about how the living things you observed get their energy. If the sun is the start of the food chain, what did you observe in your backyard that receives its energy from the sun? Then, what would receive its energy from what you picked? Ask yourself, “what eats what?” Use what you picked from your observations to make a food chain on page 17. Use arrows to show the flow of energy starting from the sun. Neatness, labeling, and use of color is encouraged. How long of a chain can you make? **Third graders need to have at least three links in their food chain and fourth graders need to have at least four links in their food chain (the sun counts as the first link).**

_____ **(5 points) Organization of Binder**

Being neat and organized helps in your learning and prevents wasted time. Organization will be on the checklist for several weeks to set good habits. Remember to keep your new homework checklist in the front of your binder as you work on it throughout the week. File reading lessons 1 and 2 behind the reading lesson tab when you are finished reading them.

Parent Signature: _____

Homework Completion Grade _____/70 points