

Evolving Life on Earth Unit Visual Story Rubric

Points	4	3	2	1	Total
Story Arc	The story contains the five stages of the story arc.	The story contains three or four of the five stages of the story arc.	The story only contains one or two of the five stages of the story arc.	The story does not follow any of the five stages of the story arc.	/4
Visual Story Elements	Excellent composition and use of captions, pictures, and diagrams. The visual story clearly conveys a message about the characters and storyline.	Good composition. Uses some captions, pictures, and diagrams. The visual story somewhat conveys a message about the characters and storyline.	Marginally acceptable use of captions, pictures, and diagrams. The visual story is often unclear and distracting.	Weak composition and repetitive or poor captions, pictures, and diagrams. The visual story is poor and not effective in communicating a message.	/4
Storytelling – Creative Elements	The story idea is communicated to the audience in a very effective and creative way. The story is interesting and engaging, and its purpose is clear.	The story idea is conveyed to the audience in a reasonable way. The story is good, but missing an element to make it great.	The story idea is not conveyed to the audience in an effective or creative way. The purpose of the story is unclear.	The story idea is not well designed or engaging. The purpose of the story is unclear.	/4
Overall Message to Audience	The message is clear and easy to understand.	The message is fairly well described.	The message is only somewhat clear.	The message is unclear.	/4

Disciplinary Core Ideas	The story accurately incorporates the fossil record, comparative anatomy, and embryonic development as lines of evidence for evolution.	The story incorporates the DCIs but at least one is not accurate or the connection to evolution is not clear.	The story does not incorporate all of the required DCIs, and there are mistakes or omissions in the science.	There is very little accurate and complete presentation of the DCIs.	/4
Science and Engineering Practices/ Crosscutting Concepts	The story accurately uses patterns and applies scientific ideas to construct explanations of evolution and extinction.	The story moderately uses patterns and applies scientific ideas to construct explanations for evolution and extinction.	The story contains minimal or vague use of patterns and references to scientific explanations for evolution and extinction.	The use of patterns and scientific descriptions of evolution and extinction are poorly developed or missing from the story.	/4
Solutions	The solutions are innovative, practical, and easy to implement.	The solutions are mostly practical and somewhat innovative.	The solutions are impractical and difficult to implement.	There are no solutions given.	/4
Total					/28