Task Title: Understanding and Responding to a News Article

OALCF Cover Sheet – Practitioner Copy

Learner Name: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Successful Completion: Yes ☐   No ☐

Goal Path: Employment ☐   Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐   Post Secondary ☐   Independence ☐

Task Description: The learner will read and respond to an article about bees and pollination.

Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.3
- Communicate Ideas and Information/Write continuous text/B2.3

Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device
- Computer

Learner Information

Secondary and post-secondary students are often asked to read articles, explain the author's position, and respond with their own opinions about different subjects.

Read "Dispatches from the Pollinator Crisis: What People are Doing Worldwide to Protect Pollination":

https://thestarfish.ca/journal/2024/06/dispatches-from-the-pollinator-crisis-what-people-are-doing-worldwide-to-protect-pollination

Work Sheet

Task 1: List three reasons why pollinators are in crisis.

Answer:

_____

Task 2: Describe two incentives Canadian cities are offering residents to encourage the creation of community gardens.

Answer:

_____

Task 3: How do supporters of genetic engineering of bees believe it will increase the human food supply?

Answer:

_____

Task 4: In a short paragraph of five (5) to eight (8) sentences, explain what you think could be done to decrease pesticide use in Canada, or specifically in your community.

Answer:

Answers

Task 1: List three reasons why pollinators are in crisis.

Answer: Habitat loss, pathogens carried by mites, exposure to pesticides.

Task 2: Describe two incentives Canadian cities are offering residents to encourage the creation of community gardens.

Answer: Some cities (e.g. Vancouver) are providing tax breaks for developers to join with local gardening NGO's and charities to build temporary community gardens on unused land. In Toronto, money is offered through PollinateTO grants to help people convert grass into pollinator gardens.

Task 3: How do supporters of genetic engineering of bees believe it will increase the human food supply?

Answer: The scientists and supporters of genetic engineering argue that genetic engineering will revitalize pollinators by making them resistant to pesticides, parasites and mites. This will increase pollination which is required for 1/3 of the world's crops, thereby increasing human food supply.

Task 4: In a short paragraph of five (5) to eight (8) sentences, explain what you think could be done to decrease pesticide use in Canada, or specifically in your community.

Answers will vary but may include

- Fines or other financial penalties for using pesticides
- Incentive (e.g. financial) to eliminate pesticide use
- Educational programs/campaigns about the dangers of pesticide use
- Educational programs/campaigns about alternatives to pesticide use

Performance Descriptors

Levels	Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Completes task with support from practitioner	Completes task independently
A1.3	integrates several pieces of information from texts			
	manages unfamiliar elements (e.g. vocabulary, context, topic) to complete tasks			
	identifies the purpose and relevance of texts			
	skims to get the gist of longer texts			
	begins to recognize bias and points of view in texts			
	infers meaning which is not explicit in texts			
	uses organizational features, such as headings, to locate information			
	follows the main events of descriptive, narrative, informational and persuasive texts			
B2.3	writes texts to present information, summarize, express opinions, present arguments, convey ideas or persuade			
	manages unfamiliar elements (e.g. vocabulary, context, topic) to complete tasks			

Levels	Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Completes task with support from practitioner	Completes task independently
	selects and uses vocabulary, tone and structure appropriate to the task			
	organizes and sequences writing to communicate effectively			
	uses a variety of vocabulary, structures and approaches to convey main ideas with supporting details			

This task: Was successfully completed ☐   Needs to be tried again ☐

Learner Comments:

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Instructor (print):   Learner (print):

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