

Constructed Response Item Template

Theme: Science

Title of Theme/Module: *Jaguar*

Stimulus Material: An Excerpt from the book *Jaguar* by Roland Smith

Writer(s): Ann Ray

District(s): Fort Osage

Region: Kansas City

Grade Range: 6-8

Subject Area: Science

Standards Assessed:

Performance (Process)

Goal: 3 **Standard:** 5

Goal: **Standard:**

Knowledge (Content)

Content: SC **Standard:** 5

Content: **Standard:**

Learner Objective:

Student will be able to demonstrate understanding of the water cycle.

Item: The following is an excerpt from *Jaguar*:

“Flanna explained that despite the heavy rainfall in the Amazon Basin, three quarters of the yearly precipitation comes from the moisture released into the air by the plants.”

Reflecting on the above quote, explain how deforestation affects the Amazon Basin.

Example(s) of Correct Response:

If enough trees are removed, the precipitation cycle will be broken, and the result will be extended dry periods that will kill the canopy and the animals that live there.

Scoring Guide:

2 Points: Answer includes the precipitation or water cycle and that dry periods will kill the canopy and the animals.

1 Point: Answer will mention the precipitation or water cycle or dry periods that will kill the canopy and the animals.

0 Points: Answer does not include precipitation or water cycle nor that dry periods will kill the canopy and the animals.

