Rubric for ES Challenge 2C (4th - 5th Grade): Design by Nature

Maximum points: 50 per submission

	Outstanding (10 pts)	Well Done (8 pts)	Good Work (6 pts)	Nice Try (4 pts)
Creativity and Originality	The model demonstrates an exceptionally imaginative and original approach to plant biomimicry in architecture. The model is fresh, unexpected, and highly inventive.	The design demonstrates a thoughtful and original approach. The model is creative and interesting, showing some unique thinking. The student moved beyond a basic or obvious solution.	The design makes an attempt at creativity, but the building concept is somewhat conventional or predictable. The student relied on familiar ideas rather than pushing their imagination further.	The design shows minimal creative effort. The model is very simple, generic, or lacks any imaginative thinking. The student did not attempt to think outside the box.
Artistry	The model demonstrates a mastery of artistic skills appropriate to or above grade level. The model is aesthetically pleasing, visually engaging, and exceptionally clear to understand.	The model demonstrates an artistic effort that is adequate to the grade level. The model is visually appealing and properly shows the important elements of the plant adaptation inspired building.	The model makes an attempt at artistry but is somewhat lacking. The model is somewhat simple or lacking in visual appeal. Artistic effort is present but inconsistent.	The model shows minimal artistic effort; the student is still learning many artistic skills. The model is very simple or lacking in visual appeal.
Plant Adaptation Inspiration	The model incorporates multiple specific plant adaptations as the core inspiration for the building. The connection between the plant's adaptation(s) and the building's design is cleverly thought out, clearly explained, and creatively applied.	The model effectively incorporates at least one specific plant adaptation as inspiration for the building. The connection between the plant and the building design is clear and logical. The student demonstrates a good understanding of biomimicry.	The model includes a plant adaptation, but the connection to the building design is vague, superficial, or not fully developed. The student may have mentioned a plant but did not clearly explain how its adaptation inspired the building.	The model includes little to no clear plant inspiration. The connection between any plant mentioned and the building design is missing or extremely weak. The student did not demonstrate an understanding of biomimicry.

Categories continue on the back

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THE FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE

Maximum points: 50 per submission

	Outstanding (10 pts)	Well Done (8 pts)	Good Work (6 pts)	Nice Try (4 pts)
Community Impact	The design powerfully or innovatively addresses a specific environmental threat facing South Florida (e.g., extreme heat, flooding, sea-level rise, pollution). The building clearly demonstrates how it would make the community cooler, safer, or better for everyone.	The design effectively addresses a specific environmental threat facing South Florida. The building demonstrates how it would benefit the community, and the connection to the local environment is clear.	The design attempts to address a threat; but the connection to South Florida's environment or the community benefit is weak or unclear. The student may have chosen a generic threat without fully considering the local context.	The design does not clearly address a specific threat; or the connection to South Florida's environment or community benefit is missing. The student did not demonstrate an understanding of how the plant-biomimicry-inspired building would be beneficial.
Description of Building's Powers	The written description is clear and detailed in 50-100 words. It thoroughly explains the plant adaptation chosen, how it inspired the building design, and how the building addresses the environmental threat. The description enhances the viewer's understanding of the design.	The written description is clear and well-written in 50-100 words. It explains the plant adaptation, the building design, and the environmental threat, though it may lack some detail or polish. The description supports the design effectively.	The written description is present but may be somewhat unclear, disorganized, or lacking in detail. It does not fully explain the plant adaptation or how the building addresses the environmental threat. May not fit within the expected word count (25-50 words).	The written description is missing, too brief, or very difficult to understand. It fails to explain the plant adaptation, the building design, or the environmental threat. May not fit within the expected word count (25-50 words).