

TASK OVERVIEW

Teachers should read through the entire task, parts 1, 2, and 3 prior to administration.

Teacher Note: Any times provided are approximate. The performance tasks are untimed so teachers should plan for multiple sessions based on the skill level of the class. Teachers should remember that the PEI tasks are designed to build background knowledge for students around environmental topics and are not designed as summative assessments. Teachers may use the performance tasks in a variety of ways depending on their instructional goals, adapting materials and questions to the needs of their students.

Part 1: Research (Plan for 1, 2, or 3 sessions)

Teacher Directions:

- Students are given the texts, research, and any additional information about the task.
- The teacher decides how much support to give to the students when they take notes on the sources.

Students research from the sources and take notes. A note taking template is provided for each task. They then respond to three research questions about the sources. Students may re-read or re-view the source material. If you must show the videos to the class at the same time, then be sure to show them at least twice and preferably three times for students to capture information. You may even provide a small group sharing opportunity after the first or second viewing for students to add more to their notes.

Part 2: Field Investigation (Science: Plan for 1 or 2 sessions)

Teacher Directions:

- Prepare needed materials.
- Provide data collection tool.
- Conduct investigation.
- Debrief.

Part 3: Essay or Speech (Plan for 1, 2, or 3 sessions)

Teacher Directions:

- Provide students with the directions for writing either the essay or a speech.
- Allow students to access the sources and the notes they took during part 1 and 2.
- Provide a time frame for writing the essay or speech.
- Adjust times as needed.

Students compose full-length essays or write a speech depending on the task. Pre-writing, drafting, and revising will be involved. They are also give a list of how their essay or speech will be scored.

Scorable Products: Student responses to the constructed-response questions and the essay will be scored. The Smarter Balanced rubrics should be used for scoring. Copies of these rubrics are provided in the tool kits for developing a performance task. The tool kits are available for download on the PEI Performance Task website under resources.

