

Rachel Carson's Impact

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Rachel Carson was a pioneer for women in science. She was a marine biologist and author of many best sellers that were well respected in the scientific community. As her career progressed, she used her platform to spread the word about the importance of conservation. She authored a book, *Silent Spring*, educating the public about chemical pesticides and their impact on the environment. It was one of the first tools that exposed the dangers of these chemicals and led to new policies to better protect human health as well as the health of organisms in their natural habitats.

Instructions: You will be completing a three-part activity in which you will investigate Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and apply what you learned to create your own environmental book proposal.

Part 1: Research *Silent Spring* and how it impacted the public's view on environmental toxins. Apply your findings to complete the following graphic organizer. Be sure to include specific information about the pesticides.

Main Idea

Supporting Detail 1

Supporting Detail 2

Supporting Detail 3

Part 2: Many environmental dangers are still present in our world today, from human impact on climate change to other chemicals and toxins in our air, water, and food. As a society, we are working toward more sustainable practices but as our population continues to grow, the damage to our planet is a primary concern for scientists. Use the space below to brainstorm at least three different environmental issues that you would like to investigate further.

Idea 1

Idea 2

Idea 3

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Part 3: Select one of the topics from part two and develop a book proposal using following guidelines:

Topic: _____

Supporting details: _____

Title of your book: _____

Target audience: _____

How will your book educate your audience? _____

Why is it important? _____

Write a summary describing the information above and why you chose this topic. Be sure to explain your three supporting details and use the rubric below as a guide.

Expectations	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Focus and details	A clear, focused topic is present that is well supported by informative details	A clear, focused topic is present but supportive details are lacking	A topic is present, with some main ideas included	The topic and supporting details are not clear
Knowledge and understanding of content	Related content is strongly present and is appropriate/ relevant to the topic	Related content is present with connection to the topic	Some related content is present but connection to the topic is unclear	Related content is not clear or connected to the topic
Organization of content	The introduction is appealing and informative, paper follows a logical progression with a strong conclusion	An introduction is present, the paper follows a set order with a conclusion	An introduction is present as well as a conclusion	There is no well defined structure to the paper
Voice	The purpose is very clear and the author connects meaning to the audience with knowledge of the topic	The purpose is clear and the author connects some meaning to the audience some knowledge of the topic	The purpose is somewhat clear, but knowledge is limited	The purpose is unclear
Word choice and style	Vivid descriptions are present, the reader is engaged and the style transitions easily	Descriptions are present and the style includes transitions	Vague descriptions are included with some transitions	Little to no descriptions are included
Structure and grammar	Structure is complete and well formed, grammar and spelling are accurate	Most sentences are composed accurately with few grammatical errors	Most sentences are structured but many grammatical errors are present	Sentences are poorly constructed and difficult to understand