Researcher's Name: _____        Date:_____

**Geography Unit A2 Lesson 4**

**From:** Ms. Plank, UN Environmental Rep (*in alternate universe)
**Regarding:** Environmental Research Needed!
_____

**To:** Grade 8 Class
**Date:** November 15, 2016

**ATTENTION: URGENT**

Last lesson, we explored human impact scenarios around environmental issues. You have been asked by the United Nations to research **one of the scenarios** and present **three research questions** about the scenario. You must also include some key ideas/ facts and resources that will help the UN in answering these three questions.

**Part One**
*[Geographic Inquiry, Reading Strategies]*

Choose **one of the six scenarios** from yesterday and create 3 research questions around it. Questions should be **deep** and should involve **critical thinking** to solve.

| Examples of strong research questions: | Examples of weak research questions: |
| --- | --- |
| What are the short and long term impacts of this scenario on the environment? | What is the scenario? |
| What technology is being used or could be used to solve this problem? | What are some things to know? |
| How can we change this impact to create a sustainable environment? | How did I find out about the scenario? |

**Part Two**
*[Geographic Inquiry, Oral Language]*

Next class, you will meet with a focus group of 2 other researchers and will present your scenario, your research questions, and some resources/ key facts that could be used in answering the questions.

*Please see the attached research sheet. Thank you for your help saving our planet's environment.*

Link to mskuksclass.weebly.com in our Google Classroom for more resources and information

**Research Planner:**

*Learning Goal:* we are learning to form inquiry questions about the environment and sustainability. We are learning to read for meaning in order to find **important information** from various texts.

**The scenario I am focusing on is (highlight one):**

1. **Water pollution from a local farm destroys ecosystems by dumping pesticides into a river.**
2. **The need for more housing causes local farmland to be built upon, limiting food.**
3. **Factory farms require space for cattle; deforestation of local rainforest begins.**
4. **The need for water for a local community causes streams to be drained, causing desertification.**
5. **Air pollution from vehicles creates smog warnings in a city.**
6. **Noise and light pollution disrupts the migratory pattern of birds.**

| | **Research Question 1** | **Research Question 2** | **Research Question 3** |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Research Question** <br><br>(- see examples of previous sheet and use Q-chart) | **What are the short and long term impacts of the scenario on environment?** | | |
| **Resources to use** <br><br>(websites, books, and videos I have found) | | | |
| **Key Ideas/ Facts** (what did I learn from a really brief research overview? | | | |

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