

Professor Garfield - Encyclopedia of Life Invasive Species Contest for Grades 6 - 8



Professor Garfield Comes to Life!

Professor Garfield in conjunction with the EOL Learning + Education group at Harvard University and the New York State Teacher Centers invites students from grades 6-8 to participate in a science-based contest about invasive species through investigation at the Encyclopedia of Life website.

The Encyclopedia of Life (EOL; eol.org) is a free online resource that brings together scientifically reviewed information about all life on Earth—one web page for each species. But EOL is much more than 1.1 million species pages. It's an incredible resource for text, images, video, sounds, maps and more. EOL tools and resources are available to anyone with access to the internet and can be used to customize the information for specific projects.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Students will:

Visit the Invasive Species of New York State Collection on EOL <http://eol.org/collections/33844> to choose an invasive species for your comic. Create a comic using Pixton at the Professor Garfield site to describe the impact of the invasive species on the ecosystem and/or the efforts to control the invasive species. The comic must include 6 to 9 panels and follow the contest rubric.



Eligibility and Entry Guidelines

- * Entrants must be in sixth, seventh or eighth grades in NYS.
- * All cartoons must be original work.
- * Comic must be created at the Professor Garfield site using Pixton.
- * Odds of winning depend on the number received.
- * Children of NYS Teacher staff are not eligible.
- * No purchase of any kind is necessary.
- * One entry per child.
- * The classroom teacher will select one entry to advance to their local Teacher Center.
- * All decisions of the judges are final and not subject to appeal or review.

Timeline

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| * February 6 th : | Announcement and webinar during Digital Learning Day |
| * February 12 th : | Training webinar for teachers on the use of Pixton |
| * May 1 st : | School submits one entry per grade level to their teacher center |
| * May 17 th : | Teacher Center submits final entries to networks |
| * May 31 st : | Network winners submitted to the Technology Committee |
| * June 7 th : | Judging |
| * June 12 th : | Announcement of winners |
| * End of June: | Prizes delivered to home schools |

Prizes

First Place - Apple iPad Mini
Second Place - Google Nexus Tablet
Third Place - Kindle Reader

<http://www.professorgarfield.org>
<http://eol.org/collections/33844>

Invasive Species Comic Book Rubric

	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
Action	Action is sequential and developing from one panel/page to another	Most of the action is sequential and developing from one panel/page to another	Some of the action is sequential and developing from one panel/page to another	Action is not sequential and developing from one panel/page to another
Captions	Captions are related to the scenes and the story, and the connections are easy to understand.	Captions are related to the scenes and the story, and most connections are easy to understand.	Captions are related to the scenes and the story, but the connections are less obvious.	Captions do not relate well to the scenes. There seems to be no connection or connections are very general.
Characters	The main characters are clearly identified, and their actions and dialogue are well-matched to their actions and dialogue in the story.	The main characters are clearly identified, and their actions and dialogue match actions and dialogue in the story.	The main characters are identified, but actions and dialogue are too general to show their relationship to the story.	It is hard to tell who the main characters are, or main characters in the comic are not the main characters in the story.
Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar	There are no spelling, punctuation, or grammar errors.	There are 1-3 spelling, punctuation, or grammar errors.	There are 4-5 spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors.	There are more than 5 spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors.
Thought and/or Speech Bubbles	Thought/ Speech bubbles are present and clearly reveal a character's thoughts or relay dialogue efficiently.	Most Thought/Speech Bubbles are present and somewhat reveal a character's thoughts or relay dialogue.	Some Thought/Speech Bubbles are present and reveal some character's thoughts or relay some dialogue	No Thought/Speech Bubbles are present.
Transitions & Layout	Most panel-to-panel transitions are well-planned and appropriate to the information and/or emotions conveyed. Panel order and word balloon order within panels are always clear.	Some panel-to-panel transitions are well-planned and appropriate to the information and/or emotions conveyed. Panel order and word balloon order within panels are usually clear.	One or two examples of well-planned panel-to-panel transitions. Panel order and word balloon order within panels are sometimes confusing.	Most panel-to-panel transitions are random and haphazard. Panel order and word balloon order within panels are consistently confusing.
Message	The message throughout the story is focused upon the nature/impact of invasive species	The message in most of the story is focused upon the nature/impact of invasive species	The message about invasive species is inconsistent regarding invasive species.	The message about invasive species is unclear.
Accuracy of research	The research is factually accurate.	The research contains few factual errors	The research contains several errors	The research is contains many factual errors.
Total Rubric Score				