

Rubric for Evaluating Submissions to *BirdSleuth Investigator*

| Criteria | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | Score |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|--|-------|
| Introduction | Question is clearly stated. Hypothesis is testable and directly relates to the investigation. Reasoning behind question and hypothesis is clearly presented. Background is interesting and appropriate. | Question is stated. Hypothesis is testable but may not relate fully to the investigation posed. Background is missing some information and/or is partially unrelated to question. | Hypothesis is unclear and/or not testable. There is little or no background information. | No scientific question or hypothesis is posed. Background information is missing. | |
| Materials and Methods | Materials and methods are thoroughly and clearly listed. Investigation is easy to understand and replicate. | Some materials and methods are listed. Procedures are understandable and likely repeatable. | Materials and methods are incomplete. Procedures are somewhat unclear making it difficult to repeat investigation. | Materials and methods are missing or are completely unclear such that the investigation can not be repeated. | |
| Data and Results | Graphs and/or tables are appropriate, informative, and properly labeled. Results are clearly stated and data patterns are clearly explained. | Some key information is missing related to data and patterns. Included graphs and/or tables are not completely appropriate for investigation or are somewhat unclear. | Results and analysis are unclear. Graphs and/or tables are not appropriate for investigation or are unclear. | Graphs, tables, and/or explanations are completely unclear or missing. | |
| Discussion | Question and hypothesis are thoroughly addressed. Alternative explanations for results and ideas for future studies are thoughtful and clear. | Question and hypothesis are addressed. Alternate explanations for results or ideas for future study are included but not thoroughly discussed. | Question and hypothesis are not fully or clearly addressed. Alternate explanations and ideas for future study are missing. | No conclusions related to the question and hypothesis are included. Explanations and ideas for future study are missing. | |
| Overall | There are no more than two spelling and/or grammar mistakes. Report is clearly written and references (if required) are properly cited. Report is visually pleasing and shows care in the overall presentation. | There are no more than ten spelling and/or grammar mistakes but they don't detract from the overall report. Writing is primarily clear and most references (if required) are properly cited. | There are quite a few grammar and spelling mistakes and the quality of writing is inconsistent. | Numerous mistakes and/or disorganization make report difficult to comprehend. | |

TOTAL SCORE (out of 20) _____

Using this rubric: For each criteria, first read column 4 and determine if it's an accurate description of the report. If yes, write "4" in the far right column. If no, read column 3 and determine if it is an accurate description of the report. If yes, write "3" in the far right column. Continue in this way for columns 2 and 1, if necessary. Complete the same procedure for each criteria. When finished, add up values in far right column for a total score out of 20. To convert to percentage, multiply total score by 5.