**File Name: I4R Ecotourism**

**Informative/Explanatory**

**Grade 4**

**Range of Writing**

 *It's vacation time!!! Rey and his family are working as ecotourist. Their job is looking after turtle eggs. Rey and his family are working with biologists. When Rey and a biologist were on "turtle patrol" Rey found a nest and brought the eggs that were in it back to camp.*

**Introduces the topic clearly** with a short narrative lead and a **definition** to help the reader understand what ecotourism is.

 Ecotourism can have bad and good effects. In keeping the balance eceotourism is described as something more complicated then it actually is. Ecotourism is really when tourists go to a country to see its wildlife. Ecotourism can help people understand wildlife but it can also harm it. This is a serious problem but there are some solutions.

States a clear focus

 Ecotourism can really ruin things. If ecotourists disturb wildlife they might wreck the ecosystem. Ecotourism can destroy plants and natural habitats. For example ecotourists might trample plants and/or scare animals and/or leave garbage everywhere. Ecotourist need lodging (Hotels and resorts) and bathrooms. These harm the environment by polluting water and destroying forests which the ecotourists would otherwise be looking at. Generally ecotourism is supposed to focus on personal growth and environmentel responsibility, but mostly it does'nt.

**Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic.**

 But there is some hope. If everybody puts their heads together we can think up some ways to improve ecotourism, environmentaly. All we really need is a few ideas to "spark" the brain storm, so here they are.

**Groups related information in paragraphs**

 One thing we could do is just prevent ecotourism altogether. But then people might forget how to value and treat nature respectfully. Another thing we could do is set some lower limits than ther are at the moment for ecotourism. Something else we could do is decrease the number of ecotoursts to a small average.

**Links ideas within categories of information using words and phrases**

 Another good solution is to make pathways and trams and things to keep ecotourists at a distance from wildlife. One more thing we can do to improve ecotourism is to have a class on how to treat the flora and fauna. Those are just 4 things we could to do improve ecotourism.

**Develops the topic with concrete details and examples related to the topic.**

 I think those are all the "sparks" we need. I hope these "sparks" light up peoples understanding of ecotourism.

**Provides a concluding statement related to the information presented.**

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This focused, informative piece explores the issue of ecotourism. The writer introduces the topic with a short narrative lead that helps the reader to understand ecotourism, and follows with a definition of ecotourism and a clear focus statement *(“This is a serious problem but there are some solutions.”).* Although the focus statement establishes the problem-solution structure of the piece, formatting would have been helpful. Italicizing the narrative lead and adding subheads to clearly delineate the problem and solution parts of the essay would have supported the reader in understanding both its purpose and structure.

Throughout the piece, precise language *(“respectfully”, “lower limits”)* and domain-specific vocabulary *(“ecosystem”, “habitats”, “flora and fauna”)* convey information clearly. Linking words and phrases *(“if”, “one thing”, “another thing”, “but”)* connect information within and between categories of information.

Ideas are broadly organized by, first, discussing the problem and then proposing some solutions. Within these broader categories, related information is grouped in paragraphs. The topic is well-developed with concrete details *(“Another good solution is to make pathways and trams”)* and examples *(“For example ecotourists might trample plants”).* The concluding statement in this piece is a short, but effective play on words *(“I hope these ‘sparks’ light up peoples understanding of ecotourism.”)*

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**Informative/Explanatory**

**Grade 4**

**Revised and Edited for Student Use**

*It's vacation time!!! Rey and his family are working as ecotourists. Their job is looking after turtle eggs. Rey and his family are working with biologists. When Rey and a biologist were on "turtle patrol", Rey found a nest and brought the eggs that were in it back to camp.*

 Ecotourism can have bad and good effects. In Keeping the Balance, ecotourism is described as something more complicated than it actually is. Ecotourism is really when tourists go to a country to see its wildlife. Ecotourism can help people understand wildlife but it can also harm it. This is a serious problem, but there are some solutions.

 Ecotourism can really ruin things. If ecotourists disturb wildlife, they might wreck the ecosystem. Ecotourism can destroy plants and natural habitats. For example, ecotourists might trample plants and/or scare animals and/or leave garbage everywhere. Ecotourist need lodging (hotels and resorts) and bathrooms. These harm the environment by polluting water and destroying forests which the ecotourists would otherwise be looking at. Generally, ecotourism is supposed to focus on personal growth and environmental responsibility, but mostly it doesn’t.

 But there is some hope. If everybody puts their heads together we can think up some ways to improve ecotourism environmentally. All we really need is a few ideas to "spark" the brainstorm, so here they are.

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