**Research Rubric**

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| **Name:** |  | **Title:** | Earthquakes |



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| 3 | **Ideas** |
| The writing . . .   * includes a thesis statement that focuses on an interesting aspect of the topic. * effectively supports the thesis. * thoroughly informs readers. * gives credit, when necessary, for ideas from other sources. | |
| 2 | **Organization** |
| * includes a clearly developed beginning, middle, and ending. * presents supporting information in an organized manner (perhaps one main idea per paragraph). | |
| 3 | **Voice** |
| * speaks in a sincere and knowledgeable way. * shows that the writer is truly interested in the subject. | |
| 3 | **Word Choice** |
| * explains or defines any unfamiliar terms. * employs an appropriate level of language. | |
| 2 | **Sentence Fluency** |
| * flows smoothly from one idea to the next. | |
| 3 | **Conventions** |
| * adheres to the rules of grammar, spelling, and punctuation. * follows the appropriate format for research papers (including correct documentation). | |

**Comments**: You include a great deal of factual information here, but you need to rearrange this information into a more logical order. For example, the details about preparing for an earthquake should come before the explanation of what to do after one occurs. Also, your sentence structure at times is awkward, making your report difficult to follow.

Be sure to check for sentence, grammar, and spelling errors; and include the necessary author and publication information for each source.

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