**Nature Unit Overview**

**English 2**

**Focus Questions:**

What is my place in nature?

What role do humans play in maintaining or improving our existence with all living things?

How can each of us play a role in sustainability?

What specifically can each of us do to improve our interactions with the world around us?

**Learning Targets:**

Reading:

I can cite strong and thorough textual evidence that supports my inferences and analysis of the text.

I can determine the figurative and connotative meaning of words and phrases based on how they are used in a text.

I can give an objective summary of a text.

I can determine the author’s point of view in a text.

I can determine the author’s purpose for writing a text.

I can analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance his point of view or purpose.

I can read and comprehend informational text appropriate for the 10th grade level.

I can compare and contrast texts in different forms in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.

I can read and comprehend poems.

Writing:

I can write arguments to support claims of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

I can produce clear, coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate for tenth grade.

I can develop and strengthen my writing by planning, revising, editing, and/or trying new approaches.

I can use technology to produce, publish, and update my work and shared writing projects.

I can follow a standard format for citation in my work.

I can write for a range of time, tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Language:

I can use various types of phrases and clauses to convey meaning and add variety and interest to my writing.

I can interpret figures of speech in context.

I can analyze the role of a figure of speech in a specific text.

I can use vocabulary appropriate to tenth grade topics.

Speaking and Listening:

I can present information where the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to my purpose.

I can strategically use digital media to enhance understanding and add interest.

I can adapt my speech to a variety of tasks and contexts.

**Activities:**

Listen to, watch, read and analyze poetry every day through the **Poem of the Day** assignment. (25 points)

Participate in **Literary Element Activities**. (30 points)

Create a **Phoem** to present to the class. (40 points)

Write and edit at least five poems for a **Poetry Collection** (50 points)

Read and annotate **Informational Text**. (25 points)

Write a five-paragraph **Synthesis Essay**. (50 points)