

Written assessment question ideas:

1. Choose one of the major categories of natural resource studies (inventory, monitoring, or experimental research). Describe when you would use that type of study and identify one approved project in your chapter that fits into that category.
2. List the major steps of the scientific process and provide a short description or example of each one.
3. List the essential elements that should be included in every field notebook entry to make it scientifically useful.
4. Why is it important to follow scientific ethics standards as a Virginia Master Naturalist? Provide three steps you can take to ensure your participation in a project meets these standards.

Practical assessment activity ideas:

1. Identify a sample using a dichotomous key. This could be a twig and leaf sample from a tree, a wildflower sample, or any number of other kinds of organisms, as long as there is a simple key provided.
2. Create a field journal entry. It should have all essential elements along with additional observations and/or sketches.
3. Use the Volunteer Management System to find one approved citizen science project in the chapter. Use all available resources to locate information on that project, including how to participate and specific protocols that must be followed.
4. Give a 2-minute informal talk about any citizen science project relating to Virginia's natural resources.
5. Using a topographical map or GPS, provide detailed location information (e.g., latitude and longitude coordinates) for a specified object such as a tree or a building.

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