Noyes Project Proposal

Field Biology

This proposal will identify the potential study you are thinking of carrying out at the Noyes Property. This assignment is an individual assignment, and it needs to be typed. At this point, you should be working on your own proposal; later, you will choose a partner and pick one of your proposals as a final project. This assignment is due at the end of the period today; please e-mail it to dan.bregar@corvallis.k12.or.us with the subject "per *X your name* Noyes Proposal".

Your proposal should describe what you will investigate at the Noyes property and how you will conduct your study. Use this format to compose your proposal.

1. Question: In "what is the relationship between" form, write the question that you will be trying to answer. One of the factors you look at should be "the diversity of soil microorganisms". The other factor is up to you.
2. Background Information: This section of your proposal should consist of two parts:
    a. The two paragraphs you wrote first semester in the "Noyes Property Project Initial Research". (If you haven't finished this assignment, or can't find it, you can look at it and use it to guide your writing.) At this point, you do not need to include formal citations in your proposal, but you should indicate the websites from which your information was collected.
    b. A paragraph that describes the general location of the Noyes Property in the Willamette Valley, the types of plants found in the Noyes Property (you can use the information from your Plant Portfolio), and a general description of the appearance of the Noyes Property (if you haven't seen the Noyes Property yet, you can give a description of the ash swale on CV's campus instead).
3. Methods: For each element of your question, describe HOW you will collect your data. Be as specific as possible – your methods should take the form of a step-by-step list that anyone could follow. In writing your methods, think about the instructions you would need to give someone in order for them to collect your data for you. We will be studying the correct way to collect and identify soil microorganisms, so part of this section will be completed after we've done an initial data collection.
4. Data Form: Make a blank data form that you can take into the field with you when you collect data. The form should have blanks for all the necessary information you will be collecting – including the grid point location and spaces for any calculations you'll be making.
5. Materials: Include a list of all the materials you will need for your study and identify who will provide each material (if you need anything from the school, be sure to check with a teacher to make sure those materials are available).
6. Proposed Analysis: In three or four sentences, explain how you will use your data to answer your question. Identify how you will need to format your data using tables and graphs, explain what the different possible answers to your question could be, and describe how your data will indicate which answer is the correct one.