Administering the K-2 Life Science Performance Task - Version 3

This performance task is designed to measure students' understanding of the following NGSS standards:

Performance Expectation:
2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a variety of different habitats.]
[Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include specific animal and plant names in specific habitats.]

SEP: Engaging in Argument from Evidence

This performance task is designed to be administered individually to students.

Materials Needed:
1. One habitat sheet per student (either in black and white or color)
   If habitat sheets are in black and white, teachers should either project the colored habitat pictures or print enough colored copies for students to see.
2. One Venn Diagram sheet per student
3. One Student Recording Sheet per student

Time:
1. It may take between 10-15 minutes for this task. Based on the grade level and writing ability of students, it may take longer. This time is an estimate.

Administering the Task:
1. Students are first given the habitat sheets to look at and record any observations they can make about the habitat and the things that live there.
2. Next students should use their *habitat sheets* and observations to complete the *Venn Diagram* to compare similarities and differences between the living things in each habitat (the Venn will be scored)
3. Finally, students should use the *Student Recording Sheet for SEP* to list characteristics/adaptations that help the animals listed to survive in their habitat and why these things help them survive.

Scoring the Task:
1. Students are scored on two parts of the task - what they write in the Venn diagram and the connections they make on the *Student Recording Sheet for SEP.*
2. The rubric suggests what students should be able to complete for a score of a 1, 2, 3 or beyond.