Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Kathryn Olesnevich (Grade 4 Teacher)	**Date:**	TeachFest Connecticut July 29th, 2014
Text and Author	*Frogs at Risk*	**Where to Access Text**	Online at ReadWorks.org

Text Description
Short Non-Fiction passage about Frogs and their decline in population.

Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	990L, Grade 4	**Text Length**	3 pages

Qualitative	
Meaning/Central Ideas	**Text Structure/Organization**
The purpose of this text is easy to identify. The author is informing the reader about the why frog population is on the decline and the effect it has on the environment.	The structure of the text is moderately complex. Various non-fiction text features are used within the text to aid the reader in comprehension (Title, Headings, Subheadings, bold print words, graphics and captions) – all vital to the reader in understanding the passage. The text is structured in a cause and effect format.
Prior Knowledge Demands	**Language Features**
Students should have a basic scientific understanding of frogs and amphibians. Knowledge about the landscape in South America (mountainous and thick forests), along with being able to locate Ecuador on a map will be useful.	The text is written in standard English. The language is largely scientific and most vocabulary words are defined within the text.

Potential Reader/Task Challenges
Students with limited scientific knowledge about amphibians may struggle with this text. A solid understanding of both cause and effect, prior to reading, will help students to unpack these elements when learning about the frog population and its recent decline.

Big Takeaway
RI.4.3 (Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information from the text.) RI.4.8 (Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text)

Environmental factors effect animal populations. Explain how environmental factors such as: weather changes, increases in population, pollution and destruction of habitats have caused a decline in the amphibian population. Explain what arguments scientists make in an effort to preserve the lives of amphibians.

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	Amphibians (1) Species (1) Cold blooded (1) Extinct (1) Habitat (2) Deformed (2)	Prey (1)
Words that cannot be determined in context	Magnitude (1)	Indicator (2)