Task Suggestion: For Georgia Performance Standard SEV1, utilize the resource titled, ‘Romanian Cave Contains Novel Ecosystem’ (1150L) and ask students to complete an Academic Notes activity.

Description: Academic Notes are a useful way to critically review text. Notes in the margins function as reminders to students to summarize and think critically about the material in the text.

How It Works: Academic Notes are to be completed while reading or as a post-reading exercise. Academic Notes are usually broken down into the following categories: define, summarize, serialize, classify, compare, and analyze. Each category has a set of corresponding questions or suggestions. During or after the reading, students are required to complete the notes page as a way of analyzing, classifying, and summarizing their experience with the text.

How It Can Be Used: Academic Notes can be used across all content areas.

- Academic Notes are particularly useful for material that is written at or above a student’s Lexile measure.
- Academic Notes may be completed individually or as part of a group by dividing the class into six groups and having each group take notes on one of the categories. Each group will then share their category of notes with the whole class.