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Extended Writing Assignment - Persuasive Speech

Have you noticed that insects have become less common in public areas recently? One contributor to the decrease in insects in Delaware are dragonflies, particularly the blue dasher. Delaware is currently looking to elect a state dragonfly, and I have the perfect candidate in mind. My name is Saanvi Sihi, and I'm a 7th grader at Odyssey Charter School. I strongly believe that the Blue Dasher is the best choice for Delaware's state dragonfly.

Imagine a world where summers are free of buzzing mosquitoes and gardens are thriving without pests. This is the crucial role that the Blue Dasher plays in Delaware's ecosystem. As a voracious predator, it helps keep control of the mosquito populations and other insects that can carry diseases or damage plants. By keeping the insect populations in check, the Blue Dasher not only contributes to healthier gardens and crops but makes living in Delaware a better experience as a whole. With its remarkable hunting skills, the dragonfly consumes 10% of its body weight each day, significantly lowering potential pest over populations that could negatively affect the public's health and agricultural activity.

In addition to its vital role in controlling insect populations, the Blue Dasher dragonfly is also a stunning sight to look at. With its beautiful blue and green colors, the male Blue Dasher is a vibrant turquoise with black markings all over, while the females are a yellowish-brown color. These vivid colors not only make them visually appealing but also remind us of the natural beauty of our ecosystems. By nominating the Blue Dasher as the state dragonfly, we not only

acknowledge its importance in the ecosystem, but celebrate the beauty that this insect brings to Delaware and our environment.

The dasher has a relatively short lifespan of only 1-3 seasons. Their presence shows that our ecosystem is healthy, because of the rapid change in generations, this means that the dasher is adaptable and can thrive in various habitats. The short life cycle makes the Blue Dasher reproduce rapidly, ensuring that their populations can quickly reform and maintain balance in their habitats. This life cycle not only highlights the dasher's role in maintaining balance but also shows its importance to contributing to a sustainable ecosystem in Delaware.

The blue dasher's short lifespan also prevents overpopulation, unlike the calico pennant. While calico pennants can become excessively abundant, leading to overpopulation, the Blue Dasher maintains a balanced presence in the ecosystem. How can we ensure a thriving ecosystem without such a well-regulated dragonfly? By managing their population effectively, blue dashers allow multiple species, including beneficial insects and plants to co-exist. Balance is very important for the overall health of Delaware's habitats.

It might seem as if the Blue Dasher is only known for its beautiful colors, because whenever you try to research it, the first thing you'd find would be articles talking about its looks. This view may sound convincing at first, but once you look more deeply into the blue dasher, the more you realize how beneficial it is to the environment. Being a main contributor to keeping the insect population under control, there is way more to the Blue Dasher than you think.

The Blue Dasher is an exceptional candidate for Delaware's state dragonfly due to its significant contributions to the ecosystem and its unique characteristics. This dragonfly helps control pest populations, such as mosquitoes while also preventing overpopulation that can occur with other dragonfly species like the calico pennant. Isn't it crucial to have a species that can

balance the ecosystem? By recognizing the Blue Dasher as Delaware's state dragonfly, wouldn't we be celebrating not only a beautiful insect but the vital role it plays in preserving our state's ecosystem? My name is Saanvi Sihi, and I strongly believe that the Blue Dasher is the best choice for Delaware's state dragonfly.

Sources

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