

Endangered Species Research Poster

Topics to Research and Include in Your Report:

You must include the items that have an asterisk in front of them for the letter grade of a B. These must be completed with high levels of quality in order for full credit to be given to earn a B. Any additional items will increase your score. You will have some in-class time to work on your project. The project is due by the end of the day on _____.

You should be working on your research outside of class so that when it comes time to complete the project, you will be ready to work.

***Title:** large and of the animal's name

***Anatomy/Appearance:** Draw a picture of what your animal looks like. How big is it? What shape is its body? What does an average one weigh? Does it have horns, antlers, fur, crests or claws? Describe the teeth, head, neck, tail, etc. How many legs does it have? Are its legs long or short? How many eyes and how many body parts does it have? Does it molt as it grows?

***Classification:** How is this animal classified and which animals is it closely related to? In the Linnean system of classification, organisms are classified into a Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and species. *What does its name mean? How did it get its name? You will want to include information about the animal's scientific name.* Make sure you capitalize each of the 7 levels in the scientific name. The species name is the only level that is not capitalized.

Locomotion: Can your animal move? If so, how does your animal move (does it walk, fly, jump, burrow, etc.)? Is it slow-moving or fast-moving? Why is this important to its survival? For example, most fast-moving animals are fast so that they can catch dinner (like the cheetah) or avoid becoming dinner (like the deer).

***Diet:** This will be done by drawing a food web / food chain. What does your animal eat and how does it get its food? Is it an herbivore (plant eater), carnivore (meat eater), omnivore (eating meat and plants), or something else? Is there something unusual in the way your animal eats? (For example, the flamingo sieves its food from mud while its head is upside down under the water.) Where is your animal in the [food web](#) (is it a top predator, like the grizzly bear, is it at the base of the food web, like krill, or is it somewhere in the middle)?

***Habitat and Range:** You will be including a map of locations where you can find this animal. What type of [biome](#) does this animal prefer (does it live in the desert, swamp, tundra, deep sea, coral reef, tropical rainforest, pond, or other habitat)? Where in the world does it live? List the continent(s), country/countries, and/or smaller areas that it lives in.

***Adaptations:** What are the obvious adaptations of your animal to its environment? For example, the giraffe's neck is an adaptation for obtaining leaves that are high off the ground. It also has tough lips to avoid thorns on its main food source.

***Life Cycle/Reproduction:** Give information on the animal's life cycle and reproduction. For example, in the case of insects, list and describe each stage in the process of their metamorphosis. For a species of shark, describe whether it bears live young or lays eggs.

***Behavior:** Describe interesting features of your animal's behavior. For example: Is there evidence of herding or is it a solitary animal? Does it burrow underground? Does it hibernate, estivate, or migrate in cold weather? Is it nocturnal (most active at night)?

Defense/Offense: How does it defend itself (and/or attack other animals)? Does it use teeth, fangs, claws, armor, horns, antlers, pincers, poison, a stinger, muscles, a strong smell, and/or something else?

Enemies: What animals eat or otherwise kill your animal? For example, for caterpillars, birds eat caterpillars, but wasps also lay their eggs in the caterpillars (and this eventually kills the wasp's unwilling host).

Communication: How does your animal communicate with other animals of its kind? What information does it communicate?

***Species Survival Status:** Is this animal species in danger of extinction? If so, why? Has it lost habitat, lost a food source, or has it been overhunted?

***Something Special:** Is there anything special about this animal? This can often be the best part of the report, taking you off on interesting topics. For example, are there legends about the animal?