

CP Biology – Animal Ecology Project

Objective: You will work with a partner to research the natural history of a specific animal species. You will research the natural history, ecosystem, behavior, and conservation impacts, and create a presentation on PowerPoint, Prezi, or a poster board. You and your partner will give a 5 minute presentation to the class for your project grade. Make sure to choose a specific species (not just 'shark', but 'bull shark') and have a couple of different animals you are interested in.

Requirements: Information must be presented in the following order.

Section 1 – Introduction: animal name (common name and specific name), animal taxonomy, relatives, and what part of the world it is found (distribution)

Section 2 – Ecology: describe the habitat and ecosystem of your animal, include both abiotic and biotic factors, include the plants and animals it interacts with and the relationship

Section 3 – natural history: what does your animal eat, how does it get food, what adaptations allow it to survive, how it interacts with other members of its population (solitary, herd animal...), any current research

Section 4 – Conservation: what are some possible environmental issues that affect your animal, is it endangered or threatened, are there conservation efforts in place, what is its status on IUCN or CITES?

Section 5 – Resources: books, articles, websites, must have a minimum of 4 resources listed and must be legitimate references (university, research organizations, zoos, museums). Google, Yahoo, About – are NOT reference sites. Wikipedia may NOT be used as a reference. Use MLA format.

General Guidelines:

1. Minimum of 6 slide
 - a. Title Slide – Animal name, group names
 - b. Taxonomy of animal (scientific name, classification = kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species, plus relatives of the animal)
 - c. Habitat/distribution (what part of the world it is found in)
 - d. Physical description/adaptations
 - e. Behavior - (diet/feeding, defense, reproduction, migration, etc...)
 - f. Conservation Issues – (human impact, ecosystem issues, population, disease, hunting,) endangered status (visit the CITES website to find its classification)
 - g. Resources – minimum 4
2. Bullet point information – DO NOT write out slides full of paragraphs, brief written information supported with graphics only
 - a. DO NOT COPY AND PASTE INFORMATION INTO YOUR PRESENTATION! This is plagiarism; your information must be in your own words.
3. Photos – must have graphics/photos/diagrams on each slide
4. Font – use large, easily readable fonts, do not get fancy with the font and keep the font consistent throughout the entire presentation
5. Design – light backgrounds with dark fonts are easiest to read. Do not clutter up your slides with too many background and use a consistent background throughout all slides
6. Presentation – each partner must speak for at least half the time (2.5 minutes each). Groups of 3 must speak 2 minutes each). Presentations must be practiced, flow well, and not involved reading directly from PowerPoint. Note cards may be used, but not read from.
7. Presentations must be emailed or brought to me on a flash drive the day BEFORE you present (A Day = 5/24, B Day = 5/28, 7th 5/24)

Name: _____ Per: ____ Due Date: _____

Name: _____

Animal: _____

Grading Rubric – bring this paper with you on the date of your presentation

	Excellent (4)	Very Good (3)	Acceptable (2)	Unacceptable (1)
Organization of slides and information	Above and beyond requirements. More than adequate information provided. Insightful perspective on topic	Meets requirements with adequate information provided. Some additional insight, information well organized	Most requirements meet, but missing some elements. Little insight, basic level information provided.	Missing several requirements. No personal insight or organization of information
Topic communication	All pieces are present and information complete. Clear planning and organization of material. Logical and well-constructed	All pieces presents but some information lacking. Information organized, but could be better presented – does not distract from overall content	Missing a few pieces but somewhat organized information. Critical parts absent. Lacks planning and organization	Missing pieces and information scattered. No sign of planning or organization. Objective missed
Technical Aspects	Backgrounds and images support the slides and do not distract from topic. Consistency in design	Some of the design is a little confusing, but does not distract from information. Lacking some consistency	Design and images are not consistent and distract from information. Difficult to read some slides	Slides are confusing; design is distracting and inconsistent throughout. Different fonts and backgrounds
Technical Aspect (text)	Font large, easy to read. Consistent throughout, bullet point text, minimal words	Font readable, some inconsistency. Mostly bullet points, a few too many words or small font	Difficulty reading slides due to too many words, font size, or font choice	Font too small or in, too many words on each slide, hard to read. No consistency
Spelling and Grammar	No spelling or grammatical errors	Few errors, but don't distract from message	Several errors, but message still present	Significant errors, difficult to understand
Oral presentation	Well-rehearsed and prepared, good eye contact, no reading from PPT or notes (used as reference only), clearly spoken and audible	Well spoken, good eye contact. Too much reliance on notes, but not directly reading. Well organized and practiced	Significant reliance on notes, mostly reading directly. Little eye contact, difficult to hear. Too much pausing to organize thoughts	Reading directly from PPT, no eye contact. No preparation or rehearsal event, a lot of pausing and disorganization
Involvement and preparation	All group members equally involved. Presentation practiced and fluid	All group members involved, but some more than others. Presentation somewhat rehearsed	Mostly one group member presenting. Presentation not rehearsed, but somewhat organized	One group member only presenting, not practiced or organized
References	All references cited correctly	Most references cited correctly	References not correctly cited, but present	Missing references
Score				

Project GRADE: _____/100