

Endangered/Threatened Species Project Guidelines and Rubric

Goal: As you work through the module, you will use your learning to research and report on an endangered or threatened species of your choice. You will prepare presentation on the species' ecology (population, community and ecosystem levels) that increases awareness about this organism and how to increase it's numbers.



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Directions:

1. Choose one threatened or endangered species to focus on for this project. Use the websites provided in the content sidebar to make a choice.

2. Research your threatened or endangered species to collect the following information:

1. **Common and Scientific Name** of the species
2. **Photographs** of the organism (at least 2)
3. **Geographical location** of biome and/or ecosystem where it is found
4. Description of its **habitat, niche**
5. Its **predators and/or prey** or other populations of significance
6. How the **food web** would be affected if this organism disappeared
7. **Approximate number** of organisms known to be in existence
8. **Threats** to its survival
9. **Current actions** to protect this organism
10. **Additional actions needed**
11. **Organization(s) to contact** for those interested in helping or learning more

3. Create a required bibliography of 3 or more reputable sources used to collect the information above.

- Be sure to **cite references used to collect the above information, giving appropriate credit for all facts and media** being shared.
- All work should be done in your own words.
- Cut and paste is considered plagiarism.

4. Choose a creative way to present your project.

Students are encouraged to develop projects in a format that best expresses their knowledge of a topic, so no two projects will be alike. Web tools for creating this project are located in the blue sidebar where the project is mentioned in the content.

Be creative and have fun. Above all, be sure that you read the rubric so that you earn your points for this project! Contact your teacher if you have questions.

Grading: The following criteria will be used to evaluate your project:

Criteria	Points Possible
Common and Scientific Name of Species	5
2+ Photographs of the organism	5
Geographical location of biome and/or ecosystem where it is found	10
Description of habitat and niche	20
Predators and/or prey or other populations of significance	10
How would the food web be affected if this organism disappeared?	10
Approximate number of organisms known to be in existence	5
Threats to its survival	5
Current actions to protect this organism	5
Additional actions needed	5
Organization to contact for more info	5
Bibliography Required: at least 3 sources (citations for each fact or statistic are required throughout)	10
Presentation: Neat, well organized, proficient use of technology.	5
TOTAL	100

***Partial* Sample Project with Teacher Notes:** Please do not use this example or any part of this student's project. *Note this student did not earn a perfect score; read through teacher notes:*

Can you provide the scientific name?

200 years ago the Passenger Pigeon was the most common bird here in North America:



Red is breeding zone; yellow is wintering zone.



Excellent! Nice citation!

A citation is needed for this picture:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passenger_pigeon

The passenger pigeon is now extinct so their numbers are at zero. The last known bird lived at the Cincinnati zoo and died in 1914.

Your pictures here are informative and interesting!

Please be sure to give a citation for your source on this fact.

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