

Marine Animal Research Final Project - Your task is to conduct **independent research** to better understand the life history and role of a chosen organism in a marine ecosystem. You must use a **minimum of three different resources**. This information is not common knowledge so therefore you will need to cite all of your resources. **Use any online citation engine that you would like.**



Your paper should include the following sections. A more detailed outline has been provided as a link on the class website. You can make a copy of this to your Google Drive to use as a template. The end product should be a combination of a research paper and an infographic. Presentation and scientific accuracy/language is key for this project. Below are the major sections, or chapters, of your research.

- I. Organism Identification
- II. Habitat
- III. Diet
- IV. Reproduction
- V. Ecological Role
- VI. Interesting Species Information

Marine Organism Research Paper Scoring Criteria	3	2	1
Cover Page (5)	Includes common name and properly formatted scientific name. Picture is present and appropriate.	Includes common name and scientific name. Picture is present and appropriate.	Incomplete Cover Page
I. Organism Identification (Phylum) (10)	Includes complete identification of the organism's Phylum, Phylum characteristics and why they are needed by that taxa. Include examples of other organisms belonging to the same Phylum.	Lacking one of the three elements of Phylum identification.	Very little research evident.
I. Organism Identification (Description of Organism) (15)	Includes complete description of the organism, both internal and external anatomy.	Does not include a complete description of the organism.	Very little research evident
II. Habitat (10)	Includes range of organism, description of habitat as well as current population size. Insure you use the ocean zone we covered earlier in the course.	Lacking one of three elements of habitat section.	Very little research evident
III. Diet (10)	Includes complete description of what the organism eats and how.	Does not include a complete description of what the organism eats and how.	Very little research evident.
IV. Reproduction (10)	Includes complete description of reproduction as well as the life cycle of the organism.	Does not include a complete description of reproduction	Very little research evident
V. Ecological Role (15)	Includes complete description of the ecological role of organism. This should include food chain and benefits/dangers to the ecosystem it lives in.	Does not include a complete description of ecological role.	Very little research evident
VI. Interesting Species Information (10)	Three additional pieces of information about the organism was shared. Unique behavior, associations, or how it is exploited by humans for a noteworthy purpose.	Two additional pieces of information about the organism was shared.	One additional piece of information about the organism was shared.
Paper Organization and Mechanics (7.5)	Paper is organized and includes few spelling, grammar and punctuation errors.	Paper is organized but includes spelling, grammar or punctuation errors.	Paper is organized but includes many spelling, grammar or punctuation errors.
Citations/References (7.5)	All citations/references present and correct for a minimum of three resources. APA formatting of resources throughout the paper, both in-text citations and references cited.	All citations/references present and most correct for a minimum of three resources.	All citations/references present but few are correct for a minimum of three resources.