

AMAZING ANIMALS

May 12th, 2004



Dear Parents,

This week, the class has begun to work on the rough draft of our next Science project, which is entitled “Amazing Animals”. The children will have an opportunity to use school resources to conduct their research. They are also encouraged to gather information from home as well (e.g. books, magazines, pictures, articles) and bring it to school to use.

This project consists of four main components:

1. *Research* an animal and *compile* information (in class);
2. Create a *bristol board display* (at home);
3. Create a shoe-box size *model* of the animal in its natural habitat (at home);
4. *Oral presentation* to class (at school).

PART ONE: ROUGH DRAFT (in class)

- The children have been provided with an *Amazing Animals Project Outline [Rough Draft version]* to guide them through the various stages of the project.
- Class time will be provided for this stage.
- If by chance, there are students who are not able to complete their work within the given time frame, they will be expected to finish their rough drafts at home.
- Students are more than welcome to take their rough draft outlines home to share with you at any time, although they are expected to do the *actual written work in class* and to have their work at school *each day*.

The following is our schedule, barring unforeseen circumstances:

Monday, May 10th – Tuesday, May 11th

- choose an animal to research;
- gather some information using school resources;
- read, read, read!

Wednesday, May 12th - Wednesday, May 19th

- continue to read for research;

- make jot notes;

Wednesday, May 19th (or earlier if complete)

- rough drafts go home;

PART TWO: BRISTOL BOARD DISPLAY and DIORAMA DISPLAY (at home)

Bristol Board Display Tips:

- use your space wisely;
- the title should be large and prominent;
- label maps and diagrams using a ruler;
- create a border using animal graphics, symbols of the environment your animal lives in, or anything else related to your animal;
- writing should be on straight lines or typed.

Diorama Display Tips:

- think about what you want your animal scene-in-a-box to look like;
- choose a background (drawing, painting, wallpaper, wrapping paper, tissue paper, construction paper, objects, etc.);
- collect the figures and materials you want to include in the scene;
- try to work from the back to the front;

Wednesday, May 26th

- final drafts and diorama due at school today!
- presentations begin.

The following are a few sites that may find useful:

SeaWorld: <http://www.seaworld.org/index.asp>

Endangered Animals of the World: <http://www.tenan.vuurwerk.nl/indexusa.htm>

SchoolWorld Endangered Species Project:

<http://www.schoolworld.asn.au/species/species.html>

Sandiego Zoo: <http://www.sandiegozoo.org/animalbytes/index.html>

E Species Fact Lists: <http://www.kidsplanet.org/factsheets/map.html>

Enchanted Learning: <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/>

Animal Clipart: <http://www.animal-clipart.com/>

Free Animal Clipart: <http://www.123spot.com/clipart.htm>

Thank-you for your support!

Sincerely,
K. Walkowiak