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March 18, 2016

Dear Parents,

Announcing the final project of the year, an animal research project! Your child has already been introduced to it in class this week. Unlike earlier projects, this one will be done as a group activity entirely in class. Each group consists of four students, and they have already chosen their animal. The final product will be a written paper and a poster with pictures and information about an animal. I will provide a poster board and a presentation folder for each group to complete the project.

The only support we are asking of you is to provide resources on the animal for your child. This may include printing some *child-friendly* articles from the internet and/or taking your child to the local library for books to check out and bring to class and to share with their group. Looking up YouTube videos about their animals and sharing them on Edmodo with classmates is another useful option. I do not recommend Wikipedia articles as good sources for primary grade children to use in these projects, since the text is very complex. Students will be given class time to read and share their research materials in their groups.

Some friendly sites include the following:

Science Kids: <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals.html>

A-Z Animals: <http://a-z-animals.com/>

National Geographic Kids: <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>

Kids Biology: <http://www.kidsbiology.com/animals-for-children.php>

Animal Fact Guide: <http://www.animalfactguide.com/links/>

The project is due Tuesday, May 3rd. The following week, students will share their research findings with the class community in the form of group presentations. Please see the other side of this sheet for an outline of information students must find about their animals. Each student will be responsible for two areas of research, and each group will decide which team member will be working on these areas.

Ms. Long

Animal Group Project

1. Introduction \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. What type of animal is it?
	2. Interesting or unusual facts about the animal.
2. Physical characteristics \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. Color, size, shape
	2. Description
	3. Special body features (adaptations)
3. Habitat (where the animal lives) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. Location the animal can be found
	2. What does its home look like?
4. Diet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. What does it eat?
	2. How does it eat its food? (examples: chew, swallow)
	3. When (daytime or nighttime) and how does it hunt?
5. Communication \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. How does it communicate with other animals? (sounds, smell, behavior, markings?)
6. Relatives \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. What other animals are in its family?
7. Enemies/Predators \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. Which animals are its enemies?
	2. How does it protect itself from its enemies?
8. Conclusion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	1. What weird, fascinating, curious facts have you learned about your animal?
	2. Concluding remarks (e.g., This animal is unique/amazing/special because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
9. Posterboard (all team members)