Diversity of Life Magazine Project

In place of a final exam, you will complete a research project. We will spend one or two class periods each week working on these projects. A section of the project will be due each week. If you are absent on a day when we work on our project, it is your responsibility to complete and turn in the part of the project that is due that week.

**The Project**

1. Select an organism that interests you from your assigned animal group.
   1. Do not pick a domesticated organism(dogs, cats, horses, cows, etc).
   2. Be creative when choosing your organism. It should not be a common well known organism (raccoon, lion, bear, Great White, dolphin)
2. Complete each section by the due date.
3. Materials
   1. One 3 Ring View Binder
   2. Bring in any necessary supplies with you on Project workdays

**Description of Sections**

1. **Magazine Cover Insert** 
   1. Your Name and Period
   2. Organism Common Name
   3. Organism Scientific Name
   4. Picture of Organism
2. **Detailed Classification**
   1. Taxonomy
      1. Describe the groups that your organism belongs to, from Kingdom to Species.
      2. Give the defining characteristics for each taxon (classification group)
   2. Cladogram a diagram that depicts evolutionary relationships among groups
3. **Body Structure**
   1. Symmetry
   2. Endoskeleton or Exoskeleton
   3. Body Covering
      1. Special body sections
      2. Appendages (wings, claws, antennae, etc)
   4. Labeled Diagram
4. **Adaptations: What special traits does your organism have for survival?**
   1. Locomotion: How does you organism move?
      1. What structures are used for movement.
   2. Sensory: What structures does your organism have for receiving stimuli?
      1. What structures are used for receiving stimuli
         1. Example: Compound eye for vision, antennae for smell, taste and touch.
   3. Defense: How does your organism defend itself.
   4. Behaviors
      1. Migration, Hibernation, Estivation
5. **Reproduction**
   1. Reproduction Method
      1. Asexual: budding, regeneration, parthenogenesis
      2. Sexual: Internal or External Fertilization.
   2. Does your organism have a mating season?
   3. Mating Rituals
   4. Gestation Period
      1. Live Birth or Eggs
   5. Number of offspring
   6. How long do they care for their offspring?
6. **Growth and Development**
   1. Average life span
   2. Size average height, weight, length
   3. Does your organism change at all after birth
      1. Metamorphosis
      2. Molting
7. **Distribution : Where does your organism live**
   1. Biome/ Climate Region
      1. Abiotic Factors (Include a climograph)
   2. Description of Habitat
   3. Range
8. **Ecology: How does your organism interact with other living things?**
   1. Energy How does your organism obtain energy?
      1. Autotroph or Heterotroph
         1. Trophic Level (Producer,1st, 2nd,3rd Order Heterotroph, Decomposer)
      2. Carnivore, Herbivore, Omnivore, or other
      3. Diet,
   2. Create a food web
   3. Symbiotic Relationships?