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?