

Evolution Of Species Project

In order to better understand the nature of evolution due to natural selection, you will be assigned to study the past of a modern-day animal. As is true with many animal species, the animals of today do not resemble their ancestors of the past. You will identify why their environments and necessities to survive and reproduce in those environments shaped the forms of animal ancestors. To illustrate these differences, you will research and create a poster about a modern-day animal, identify four of its ancestors, and identify facts about each of the animals. This project is worth 100 points and is due in one week. The following criteria must be fulfilled :

I. Choose a modern-day mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, or fish.

II. For the modern-day animal and each ancestor : (20 points for each animal - except #6)

1. Identify the common name and scientific name. (2 points each)
2. What years did it exist? (2 points each)
3. Show a picture (color if possible) of the animal. (2 points each)
4. Identify the habitat in which it lived. (2 points each)
5. Identify the geographic range of the animal. (2 points each)
6. List five adaptations necessary for the survival of the **modern animal only**. (5 points)
7. List five facts about the animal. (5 points each)

Suggestions (do not limit yourself to these)

- Size & Length
- Diet
- Comparative Size to modern-day
- Predators & Prey
- Cause of extinction

III. Arrange the animals sequentially and chronologically using a timeline. (10 points)

- Identify Epochs, Periods, and Eras when possible on the timeline.

IV. Neatness : (10 points)

- Use subheadings for each section (animal names) on your poster.
- Type out information.
- Make it colorful and appealing.
- Bullet information, (do not use large paragraphs of information).
- Organize!, Organize!, Organize!
- Copied Internet pages will result in zero points.

Evolution Of Species Grading

| Performance Element | Points Possible | Points Earned | Comments |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|
| Modern Animal | | | |
| Name | 2 | | |
| Existence | 2 | | |
| Picture | 2 | | |
| Habitat | 2 | | |
| Range | 2 | | |
| Adaptations | 5 | | |
| Five Facts | 5 | | |
| Ancestor #1 | | | |
| Name | 2 | | |
| Existence | 2 | | |
| Picture | 2 | | |
| Habitat | 2 | | |
| Range | 2 | | |
| Five Facts | 5 | | |
| Ancestor #2 | | | |
| Name | 2 | | |
| Existence | 2 | | |
| Picture | 2 | | |
| Habitat | 2 | | |
| Range | 2 | | |
| Five Facts | 5 | | |
| Ancestor #3 | | | |
| Name | 2 | | |
| Existence | 2 | | |
| Picture | 2 | | |
| Habitat | 2 | | |
| Range | 2 | | |
| Five Facts | 5 | | |
| Ancestor #4 | | | |
| Name | 2 | | |
| Existence | 2 | | |
| Picture | 2 | | |
| Habitat | 2 | | |
| Range | 2 | | |
| Five Facts | 5 | | |
| Timeline | 10 | | |
| Neatness | 10 | | |
| TOTAL | 100 | | |