

Hello Gr. 1 Parents,

As a culminating activity for our nature studies, each student will present a nature study of his/her own. Students will choose any nature study that they want to do. Here are some ideas of ones we haven't done in class: rocks/minerals, tornados, seeds, or any animal that we haven't studied. We plan to study bees, bird nests, sea shells and butterflies before the year ends **so it would be best to not do these**. Please read a book with your child and help him/her write five or more factual sentences about the nature study. Here are **some examples** of facts if your child chooses to do an animal.

- Physical characteristics
- Habitat
- Diet
- Predators (what hunts & eats them for food)
- Another unique fact

Use the attached graphic organizer to write facts about the animal or other nature study you read about (like rocks/minerals). Use the provided lined paper to help your child compose in their own words five sentences (or more) about the nature study. **I am giving your child a couple of weeks to complete this project because he/she will probably need to write a 1st copy and then a 2nd copy to present to the class.** Return the graphic organizer and completed sentences to school the second week of April. If your child is comfortable of adding adjectives and adverbs to the sentences, please guide them in doing so as it will make the reports more captivating.

Students will give an oral presentation in April. We will have about six children per week present. I will let you know when your child's day is to present.

Your student should also bring in a handmade model of their animal or something to do with their nature study to class. This could be an experiment they have performed, pictures, a poster or even a diarama. Please don't send in models or projects early. They need to come in the day of your child's presentation because of limited space in the classroom.

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Here is what I will look for when I grade your child's report:

Rubric for Nature Study

Name _____

_____ My research includes at least 5 different facts about my nature study. (5 pts.)

_____ My report has a **title** with capitals (5 pts.)

_____ I wrote in complete sentences. (5 pts.)

_____ I began each sentence with a capital letter. (5 pts.)

_____ Each sentence has a noun and a verb. (5 pts.)

_____ Each sentence has an end mark. (5 pts.)

_____ Proper nouns are capitalized. (5 pts.)

_____ I brought in something for the class to look at (a model or experiment etc) (10 pts.)

_____ I have written my report in my best handwriting. Clock letters start at 2 o'clock and tall letters almost reach the top line. Letters sit neatly on the line. There are spaces between each word.

(10 pts.)

_____ **TOTAL POINTS (55 pts. possible)**

This should be a fun learning experience for your child. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sonja Daum
First Grade Teacher, CSP

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