

Australian Animals

Science Report



Grades

4-6

Objective

Australia is important to biodiversity on Earth. There are many unique animals in Australia. Students will research and write a report about an Australian animal, its behaviors and characteristics, its habitat, and how it is impacted by human beings.

Materials

- Lesson Plan
- Graphic Organizer

CILC Curricular Resources &



Animal Research Project

Source: Henry County Schools, <https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us>

This project is an integrated assignment covering science, writing, and reading curriculum. It is to be worked on at school through research and writing, as well as at home. The project consists of a written research paper and a visual presentation at school.

Step 1: ANIMAL ASSIGNMENT

Assign students an Australian animal to research. There's a great list to choose from at: <https://trishansoz.com/trishansoz/animals/australian-animals.html>

Step 2: RESEARCH

Students begin researching their animal. They should have time to do this at school, but students may also wish to do additional research at home. They should have a minimum of three resources. The resources must include the following:

- A nonfiction book. Students may choose a short, specific book on their animal or a book with an article/chapter on their animal. This might be a great opportunity for your class to visit the school library or your community's public library.
- An internet website of their choice. They should some time during class to do research, but some will need to be done at home. Suggested sites include:

<https://australian.museum/learn/animals/dangerous-animals/>

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover.html>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Animals>

<https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/animals-in-australia.html>

<http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/animals.htm>

<https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2013/03/australias-dangerous-animals-the-top-30/>

<https://trishansoz.com/trishansoz/animals/australian-animals.html>

- The final resource may be of your own choosing. You might find information from another book, website, scientific magazine or encyclopedia.

Students should also keep sources for any printed pictures of your animal and its habitat. They should remember to write down the names of each resource.

Step 3: REPORT

Once students have gathered their information, they should begin writing their report.

Their report should be organized as follows:

- Typed or neatly handwritten.
- Title Page: Include a title, your name, and a picture or drawing of your animal
- Paragraphs should be a minimum of 5 sentences= 1 topic, 3 details, 1 concluding sentence.

Paragraph 1: Characteristics/Introduction

Write about the distinguishing features or interesting facts about your animal. Here you should give information regarding whether the animal is a vertebrate or invertebrate, and if it is a mammal, reptile, etc. What are the characteristics of that group of animals?

Paragraph 2: Habitat

Describe the habitat your animal lives in (grasslands, mild forest lands, desert, tropical rain forest, saltwater shores, freshwater rivers, open sea-surface, deep sea, etc.)

Paragraph 3: Food

Describe what food is available to your animal in its habitat and how it gets and eats its food. Please include an illustration of your animal's food chain. Extra credit points will be assigned if you also include an illustration of a food web which would include your animal.

Paragraph 4: Adaptations

Describe different ways your animal has adapted its body or lifestyle to survive in its habitat. For example, is camouflage a learned or an inherited behavior, is it a body adaptation or a behavioral adaptation?

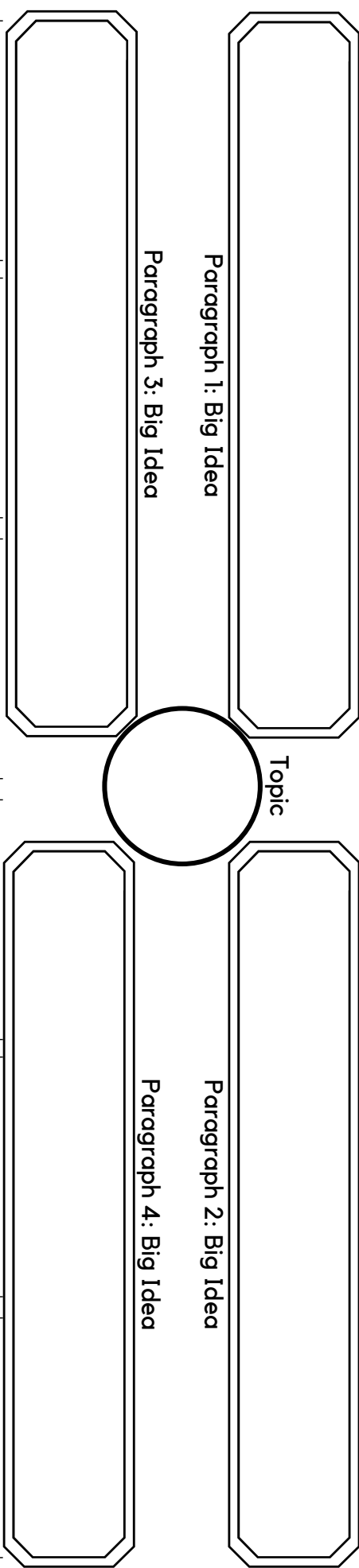
Paragraph 5: Impact of Human Effects

Describe the impact of human activity on your animal's habitat.

Source: <https://schoolwires.henry.k12.ga.us>. Retrieved 02.21.22

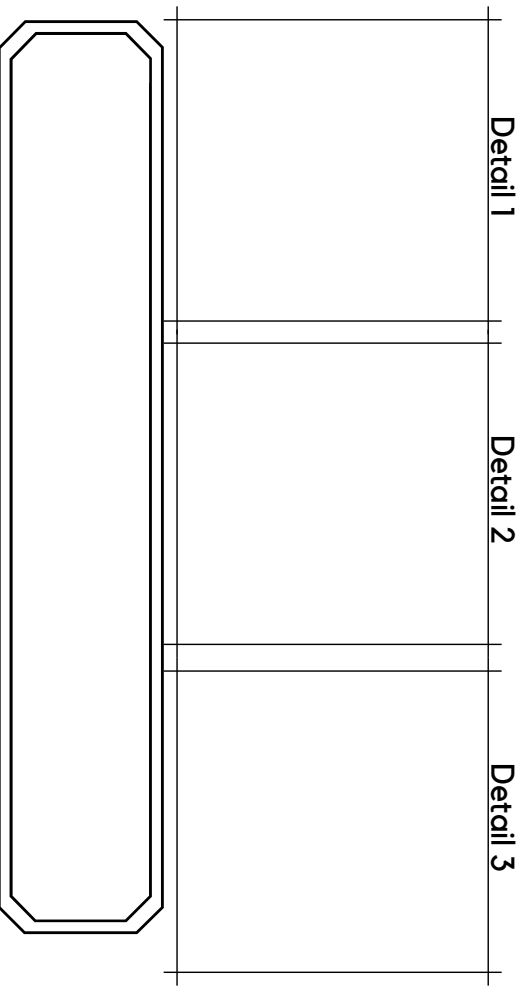
Name _____ Date _____

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Paragraph 5: Big Idea