Endangered Species Research Assignment Rubric (Grade 9 Science De-streamed)					
Criteria	Level 4 100%-80%	Level 3 79%-70%	Level 2 69%-60%	Level 1 59%-50%	R Below 50%
Animal Selection & Description (20%)	• Animal description is exceptionally detailed and accurate. Covers physical characteristics (size, colour, appearance) comprehensively. • Demonstrates exceptional understanding of animal biology and morphology.	• Animal description is detailed and accurate. Covers key physical characteristics effectively. • Demonstrates very good understanding of animal biology and key morphological features.	• Animal description is adequate with some detail. Most physical characteristics are included, though some lack depth. • Demonstrates adequate understanding of animal biology and basic characteristics.	• Animal description is minimal with limited detail. Some physical characteristics are missing or unclear. • Demonstrates limited understanding of animal characteristics.	No description present or description is inaccurate and incomplete. • Insufficient evidence of understanding animal biology or morphology.
Organization, Presentation & Engagement (10%)	• Presentation is exceptionally well-organized and professional. • All required components are included and logically sequenced. • Visuals (images, diagrams) are high-quality, relevant, and enhance understanding. • Layout is polished and visually appealing. • Demonstrates exceptional ability to communicate complex biological information in an engaging, age-appropriate manner.	• Presentation is well-organized and professional. • Required components are included and clearly presented. • Visuals are relevant and appropriate. • Layout is clean and organized. • Demonstrates very good ability to present information clearly and maintain audience interest.	• Presentation is adequately organized. • Required components are included but flow is somewhat uneven. • Visuals are present but may lack visual impact. • Demonstrates adequate ability to organize and communicate information.	• Presentation is somewhat disorganized. • Some required components may be missing or unclear. • Visuals are minimal or poorly integrated. • Demonstrates limited ability to organize information for audience understanding.	• Presentation is disorganized or incomplete. • Required components are missing. • Visuals are absent or irrelevant. • Insufficient evidence of clear communication or audience engagement.
Habitat & Geographic Information (20%)	• Geographic range is exceptionally clear with specific locations identified. • Habitat description is thorough and detailed (climate, terrain, vegetation). • Shows outstanding understanding of environmental needs.	• Geographic range is clearly identified. • Habitat description is detailed and appropriate. • Environmental needs are well-explained.	• Geographic range is identified. • Habitat description is adequate with some detail. • Environmental factors are mentioned.	• Geographic range is vaguely described. • Habitat description is minimal or unclear. • No mention of environmental factors, or inaccurate details.	• Geographic range is missing. • Habitat information is absent/incorrect.

Ecological Role & Food Web (20%)	• Food web diagram is exceptionally clear, accurate, and detailed. • Animal's role in the ecosystem is thoroughly explained. • Understanding of trophic levels and energy flow is outstanding. • Demonstrates exceptional understanding of ecosystems, food chains, and the animal's critical ecological role.	• Food web diagram is clear and accurate. • Animal's ecological role is well-explained. • Trophic relationships are correctly identified. • Demonstrates very good understanding of food webs and the animal's ecological role.	• Food web diagram is present and mostly accurate. • Animal's role is adequately explained, though some detail is lacking. • Trophic relationships are identified. • Demonstrates adequate understanding of basic food chains and animal's role.	• Food web diagram is present but unclear or contains errors. • Animal's ecological role is vaguely described. • Trophic relationships are inaccurate or inadequate. • Demonstrates limited understanding of ecological relationships.	Food web diagram is absent, incomplete, or significantly inaccurate. • Ecological role is not discussed. • Trophic relationships are absent. • Insufficient evidence of understanding food webs or ecological role
Conservation & Endangerment Information (25%)	• Reasons for endangerment are thoroughly and clearly explained (habitat loss, climate change, hunting, pollution, etc.). • Conservation efforts are described in detail. • Shows outstanding understanding of species-specific threats. • Demonstrates exceptional understanding of species-specific conservation challenges and solutions.	• Reasons for endangerment are clearly explained with good detail. • Conservation strategies are well-described. • Understands key threats to the species. • Demonstrates very good understanding of conservation needs and realistic solutions.	• Reasons for endangerment are identified with adequate detail. • Conservation information is present but somewhat limited. • Demonstrates adequate understanding of basic conservation concepts.	• Reasons for endangerment are vaguely described. • Conservation information is minimal or unclear. • Demonstrates limited understanding of why species are endangered or how to help.	• No information on endangerment • No information regarding conservation efforts, or information is inaccurate. • Insufficient evidence of understanding endangerment or conservation.
Research & Sources (5%)	• All sources are cited completely and accurately. • Website links are functional and properly documented. • Evidence of extensive research with multiple credible sources (minimum 4+ sources). • Research demonstrates exceptional depth.	• Sources are cited completely with minor formatting errors. • Website links are properly listed. • Good evidence of research with credible sources (3-4 sources). • Research demonstrates very good quality with credible sources.	• Sources are cited with some errors or omissions. • Website links are mostly complete. • Adequate sources used (2-3 sources). • Research demonstrates adequate quality with mostly credible sources.	• Sources are cited but with significant errors or many omissions. • Website links are incomplete or problematic. • Limited source diversity (1-2 sources). • Research quality is limited; sources may lack credibility or relevance.	• No sources cited, or citations are severely incomplete. • No evidence of research effort. • Research effort is insufficient or sources are unreliable.