



# Homework Menu #9

name: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** For For homework this month you will be working on and completing projects of your choice. Below is a list of projects that you may choose from. If you have an idea of your own which is not listed, check with Russ for permission to try it. As you complete each project you will have a chance to share it with your classmates. Some projects may take more time than others to finish. To keep track of the time you spend on your homework projects, you and your parents will complete a Homework Time Sheet that is to be turned in each Friday. When you finish one project, begin working on your next project as soon as you can. All projects will be due no later than the nearest Friday to the end of the month. At that time a new menu will be given out.

**Focus of the Month:** Animals



**Skills included:** Research; analysis; interpreting/infering; descriptive and expository writing; artistic representation; oral presentation; communication; scientific observation.

## Project Menu:

- All living things, including animals, need to live in the proper habitat in order to thrive. Choose an animal to research. Find out what its habitat consists of and then create a diorama that accurately depicts the animal in its habitat. Be sure to include depictions of a lot of details including things for the animal to eat, water for to drink, and shelter for it.
  
- An endangered species is an animal or plant that needs special protection in order to survive and not become extinct. Choose an animal that is considered endangered and find out as much about it as you can. Create a large poster that depicts the animal, shows or tells about its habitat, explains why it is endangered, and tells some things that can be done or are being done to help save it from extinction. Bonus idea: write a letter to a congressperson, representative, or even the President, asking for more help to save the endangered animal you have researched.



- Some animals such as the Passenger Pigeon and the Do Do Bird have already become extinct. Research an extinct species of animal, finding out everything you can about it. Create a large poster report that shows an accurate drawing or picture of the animal, what its habitat was, and why it became extinct. Bonus idea: if the animal you are researching was alive today, but endangered, explain what could be done to save it?

- Pets are animals that we become very familiar with. In fact it seems that the more time we spend with them, the more we understand what they are feeling or needing from us. Observe your pet closely and write down anything you notice that he or she does to communicate to you. Go to the library or use the Internet to find out if there are any other ways pets use to communicate either to another pet or to humans. Use pictures and labels to create a "dictionary" showing the ways your pet communicates with people and/or other animals. Bonus idea: make your dictionary into a PowerPoint style presentation.



□ Visit the **Zelda's Zany Zoo** website and complete the webquest activities. The Internet address is: <http://hrsbstaff.ednet.ns.ca/nbarkhou/class/zanyzoo/> Be prepared to share your presentation to the class, pretending that they are the city council. (NOTE, some of the links on this website are outdated)

□ Birds and bats frequently have difficult times finding places to raise their young. To help them out, build a bird house or a bat house and place it in an appropriate location in your yard (be sure to get permission to do this first). Bring your completed birdhouse or bat house to share with the class before you place it in your yard, or take a picture of it after it is mounted. You can find books in the library that have plans for building bird and bat houses. The Internet also has lots of websites with information and plans. Some websites with plans include:

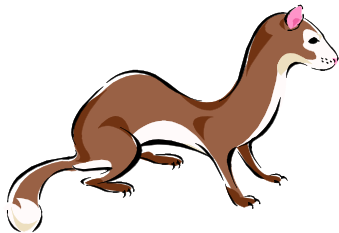


**Homes for Birds** <http://baltimorebirdclub.org/by/house.html>

**Build a Bat House** <http://www.nwf.org/Garden-For-Wildlife/Cover/Build-a-Bat-House.aspx>

□ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Expectations:** It is expected that chosen projects will be finished completely, neatly, and in a timely manner. It is also expected that students will gain a depth of understanding about their project's topic upon completion. Further, while students are encouraged to work on one project at a time, it is entirely possible for students to complete any number of projects in the timeframe given. Students should also remember to keep homework interesting by challenging themselves to learn as much as possible and to do the best work they can.



**Important:** These projects will likely require mutual involvement of students and their parents. They also cannot be completed in one short evening prior to the due date. Each student will have to use their time wisely, doing a little bit at a time until a project is complete. Use the Project Planning Form to help you successfully complete your project on time.

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