Coral Reef Organism Research Guide

Your organism: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What coral reef is this class studying?
2. Where is this coral reef located?
3. What is the average water temperature of this reef?
4. What is the common name of your species?
5. What is the scientific name of your species?
6. What is the size range of your species (in centimeters)?
7. How does your species reproduce?
8. What is the life cycle of your species?
9. What are 2 specific adaptations of your organism? (Hint: these are specific characteristics that help your organism survive)
10. Is your organism an autotroph or a heterotroph?
11. What does your organism eat?
12. What eats your organism?
13. What interactions does your organism have with other species? (Hint: Think about mutualism, commensalism, parasitism, and/or competition)
14. What is an interesting fact about your organism?
15. What is the current conservation status of your organism? (Hint: Possible statuses are critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable, near threatened, conservation dependent, and least concern)
16. What is the biggest environmental threat to your organism? (Hint: If you can’t find organism specific information, talk about threats to the Great Barrier Reef)
17. What conservation efforts could protect your organism and/or the reef it lives on? (Hint: These could be current efforts that are already in place, or ones that you suggest)
18. What sources did you use to find this information? List at least 3.

Research Paper Outline

1. Introduction Paragraph
   1. Common and Scientific Name of Your Organism
   2. Reef information
      1. Name, Location, Average Water Temperature
2. Species Information
   1. Size Range (centimeters)
   2. Life Cycle
      1. Reproduction
         1. Provide detailed information about how they reproduce
      2. Other information, such as life expectancy, development stages…
   3. Adaptations
      1. Include how these adaptations help your organism survive on the reef
   4. Interactions
      1. Discuss how your organism interacts with other organisms.
      2. Include mutualism, commensalism, parasitism, and/or competition.
      3. DO NOT INCLUDE FEEDING RELATIONSHIPS HERE.
   5. Interesting Fact
      1. Give at least 1 interesting fact about your organism.
3. Feeding Information
   1. Type of Organism
      1. Is your organism an autotroph or heterotroph?
      2. Include an explanation.
   2. Food Web Information
      1. Food sources for your organism.
      2. Things that eat your organism.
4. Conservation Information
   1. Current Conservation Status of your Organism
   2. What is the biggest environmental threat to the organism (or the reef)?
   3. What conservation efforts could protect your organism (or the reef)?
5. Sources- At least 3 in APA format