

Name: _____ # _____ Date: _____

Short Research Report - State Symbol

1. Choose one of the state symbols listed below:

- Arizona Ridge-nosed rattlesnake
- Ringtail
- Arizona Tree Frog
- Apache Trout
- Two-tailed Swallowtail Butterfly
- Cactus Wren
- Saguaro Blossom
- Palo Verde
- Petrified Wood

2. Research facts and details about the symbol you chose. The links below will be helpful in completing your research. You will be provided with a worksheet to fill in all of your notes from your research.

http://www.statesymbolsusa.org/Arizona/Arizona_state_symbols.html

http://www.azsos.gov/public_services/kids/kids_state_symbols.htm

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Arizona_state_symbols

http://www.netstate.com/states/symb/az_symb.htm

http://phoenix.about.com/od/arizonastatesymbols/Arizona_State_Symbols.htm

3. Once you have completed the worksheet, you will begin writing your report. You will use the 5-paragraph essay format.

Paragraph 1 --- Introduction

This paragraph tells the reader what the essay will be about. It contains a topic sentence and briefly identifies the topics that will be in the following three paragraphs. The last sentence is a transition and should “hook” the reader to keep reading.

Paragraph 2 --- 1st fact with at least 2 details

This paragraph should contain the most important fact or idea related to the topic of the essay. You will need to include the facts or information that you chose as the most important along with at least two supporting details, examples or explanations. The last sentences should transition from this fact to the next to keep your reader reading.

Paragraph 3 --- 2nd fact with at least 2 details

This paragraph should contain the second most important fact or idea related to the topic of the essay. You will need to include the facts or information that you chose as the most important along with at least two supporting details, examples or explanations. The last sentences should transition from this fact to the next to keep your reader reading.

Paragraph 4 --- 3rd fact with at least 2 details

This paragraph should contain the weakest or least important fact or idea related to the topic of the essay. You will need to include the facts or information that you chose as the most important along with at least two supporting details, examples or explanations. The last sentences should transition from your facts and information to the conclusion to keep your reader reading.

Paragraph 5 --- Conclusion

This paragraph should summarize the entire essay. You will need to restate the topic sentence from the introduction (don't just re-write it), restate the three facts from paragraphs 2 through 4, and a final statement to let the reader know that the essay is finished.

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Notes & Outline Worksheet – State Symbol

Use the following outline to take notes and organize your information. You do not have to use complete sentences. Instead, write some key words or phrases that tell the main idea and details of your research.

I chose the state symbol of _____ for my research project.

Introduction

My topic sentence is: _____

Briefly write your three facts:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

My transition / hook idea is: _____

1st Fact or information

The strongest or most important fact about my topic is _____

List some details and examples that support this:

_____	_____
_____	_____

2nd Fact or information

The next strongest or important fact about my topic is _____

List some details and examples that support this:

_____	_____
_____	_____

3rd Fact or information

The weakest or least important fact about my topic is _____

List some details and examples that support this:

_____	_____
_____	_____

Conclusion

Restate your topic sentence in a new way: _____

Briefly re-state your three facts in a new way:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

My final thought is: _____

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Grading Rubric – State Symbol

Introduction (5 pts) _____

Strong topic sentence

Three facts or ideas

Transition / Hook

1st Paragraph (4 pts) _____

Clear topic sentence

Supporting details

Transition / Hook

2nd Paragraph (4 pts) _____

Clear topic sentence

Supporting details

Transition / Hook

3rd Paragraph (4 pts) _____

Clear topic sentence

Supporting details

Transition / Hook

Conclusion (5 pts) _____

Restated topic sentence

Restated facts/information

Finishing thought

Conventions (8 pts) _____

Clear sentence structure

Correct punctuation

Accurate spelling

Total points earned (30 pts) _____

Letter Grade _____