

The weird and wonderful life on Earth

Introduction

In Biology Unit 5 of the *Smart Science Student's Book*, you are introduced to some remarkable animals and plants. This activity will allow you to find out more about them, and some other animals or plants of your choice.

Objectives

During this activity, you will:

- use the school library, the Internet, your teacher, to find out more about remarkable nature
- be selective about the information you find, to concentrate on the most important information
- write a full bibliography of the sources of information that you use

Planning

This activity contains three parts. You need to plan each part before carrying it out.

Here are all the parts you need to plan:

1. Finding out about a chosen example of remarkable nature, and keeping notes.
2. Choosing the most important information and writing about it.
3. Writing a full bibliography to attach to the end of your written work.

Finding out about a living thing and keeping notes

In Unit 5 of the *Smart Science Student's Book* there is information about the following animals and plants:

- blue whales
- giant redwood trees
- honeybees
- parrots
- bristle cone pine trees
- *Welwitschia*.

Use your textbook as a starter source to write **at least** half an A4 page about **one** of these.

In addition, find out at least **three** further pieces of information about your choice. These three pieces of information must *not* be in the textbook.

Writing a report

Write a scientific report that uses this structure:

1. Your name (surname first, then initials).
2. Title of your report.
3. City nearest where you are writing your report and the date.
4. One or two sentences summarising your report and what it is for.
5. A paragraph on each piece of information.
6. A conclusion at the end with one or two sentences that say what you have found out and what you will research next.



Form/Class	
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Name	
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Writing a bibliography

1. You need to list the sources of data you used.
2. Look at the source given at the end of the table of data on the next sheet.
3. Use this source as the first entry in your bibliography.
4. Follow the same format for your other sources:
5. Author, *Title of Publication* (Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication), page number or web address
6. Usually, the author is one person or a number of people.
 - For one person, put their last name, followed by their initials.
 - For a number of people, put the main author before the others, or if there is no main author, put the surname that is alphabetically first at the beginning.
7. Here are some examples:
8. Einstein, A., *On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies* (English translation) in *The Principle of Relativity*, (London: Methuen and company, 1905)
9. Gill, A. P., Bysouth, K., Sang, D. and Skinner, G., *Smart Science Student's Book*, (Cambridge: Smart Learning, 2014)
10. With a number of sources, it helps if you sort the bibliography into alphabetical order of author.

