Lesson 2: Model Organisms of the MBL

Poster Project

**Directions:**

1. With your partner/group, choose one organism listed below to research. Make sure to let your teacher know the species you selected.

| *Axolotl* | *Atlantic Horseshoe Crab* | *Sea Squirt* | *California Two-Spot Octopus* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Longfin Squid* | *Comb Jelly* | *Rotifer* | *Zebrafish* |
| *Western Clawed Frog* | *Sea Lamprey* | *Bat Star* | *Cherry Shrimp* |
| *Purple Sea Urchin* | | *Little Skate* | |

1. Look up the following information about your organism and write down your findings in your notebook. Make sure to use at least 3 reputable sources (websites that end in .gov or .edu) and properly cite them.
   1. Classification: scientific name of the species, close relatives
   2. Ecology: location in the wild, habitat, niche, place in a food web
   3. Anatomy: physical appearance, unique characteristics
   4. Use as a Model Organism: reasons why it is used, involvement in specific studies/experiments, findings and biomedical applications from these studies/experiments
2. Create a poster based on your research. Write summaries and bulleted lists of your findings. Also include a large, detailed drawing of your organism.
3. You and your partner/group will present your poster to the class.

**Grading Criteria**

You will be graded based on the following:

All research is simplified and written on the poster….. 10 points

Drawing of the organism is included on the poster….. 5 points

The poster is neat, legible, and colorful….. 5 points

Individual participation (research, creation of poster, and presentation)….. 10 points

**Total Points = 30**