

Zoology Research Paper: Phylum Platyhelminthes

Due: _____

Find a species of Platyhelminthes for a research paper. Decide whether you will report on a parasite (Cestode or Trematode), or a free-living Turbellarian. If you report on a parasite, it must be a species which infests humans.

Free-Living Species:

- Give its scientific name, and its full classification from Kingdom to Species
- Where does it live?
 - Describe the habitat that it lives in
 - Describe where in the world it lives
- What does it eat? Describe the complexity of its gut.
- Does anything eat it? Why or why not?
- How does it breathe?
- If it lives in freshwater, how does it regulate its osmotic balance? (in other words, what does it do or have to prevent freshwater from rushing into its cells)
- If it lives in saltwater, does it engage in penis fencing? Why?
- If possible, provide a picture of it.

Parasitic Species:

- Give its scientific name, its common name, and its full classification from Kingdom to Species.
- Describe its life-cycle
 - Draw a picture of the life-cycle
 - How many hosts does it have, other than humans? What are they?
- Describe its environment. For a parasite this includes:
 - The organs it infests in each host
 - The environment it inhabits when “outside”
- Describe the symptoms associated with infestation
- Describe any known cures or ways of removing it.
- If possible, try to find out how many people are infected worldwide.
 - You might want to try looking on the World Health Organization website:
 - <http://www.who.int/en/>

Papers should be no less than 2 pages, and no more than 3 pages. A separate sheet should be attached with your bibliography.

Please refrain from cutting and pasting any information that you find on the internet. You must write the report in your own words. Any words that are not yours must be in quotations, and be cited in your bibliography. It is very simple to find out who is cutting and pasting by doing a Google search!