Animal report template by grade: free printable sheets for grades 1 to 6

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A free animal report template for grades 1–2, 3–4 and 5–6: pick an animal and Peabody prints one page with its sourced numbers, a reading passage and lines to write.

Pick an animal and a grade band on Peabody's Report Builder, and it prints a one-page animal report sheet: the animal's five numbers already filled in with their sources, a short reading passage at that grade's level, and lines for the child's own words. There are sheets for every animal on Peabody, at three bands: grades 1–2, 3–4 and 5–6. No sign-up, nothing to buy, and nothing a child types leaves the device, because nothing is typed at all: the child writes on paper.

I built it because the templates I found online fell into two camps. Some were pretty but empty, so a seven-year-old had to find a weight and a lifespan on their own, often on a page with no source. Others came in paid packs. The how to write an animal report post covers the eight parts of a report; this one is about the printed sheet.

What's on every sheet

- The animal's name and science name, so a child can find more about it later.
- Five numbers: how long, how tall, how heavy, how fast and how long it lives. Each is filled in from Peabody's data, with a note when the note matters ("males", "in the wild") and "no checked number yet" when no page we use gives one.
- A reading passage: the animal's own text from its page, at the band's reading level, always under 250 words so the sheet stays on one page.
- Where my facts came from: the sources, already written down. That's the box most report sheets leave blank, and the one teachers ask about most.
- Lines to write on, more and harder by band.

How the three bands differ

- Reading passage · Grades 1–2: Little level · Grades 3–4: Middle level · Grades 5–6: Big level
- Questions to answer · Grades 1–2: It lives in · It eats · The coolest thing I learned · Grades 3–4: Where it lives (its habitat) · What it eats · How its body helps it live there · My favorite fact · A question I still have · Grades 5–6: Habitat and range · Diet · Adaptations · Is it in danger? Why or why not? · Compare it with another animal · Bibliography
- Drawing box · Grades 1–2: Big · Grades 3–4: Small · Grades 5–6: None: they write more

At grades 5–6 the last box asks the child to write each source as site, page title and date checked, which is a gentle first bibliography.

An example: the gray wolf

Open the gray wolf report and the five numbers fill in from one National Park Service page about Yellowstone's wolves:

- Number: How long · Gray wolf: 1.81 m (5.9 ft) · The note: average
- Number: How tall · Gray wolf: 0.77 to 0.81 m (2.5 to 2.7 ft) · The note: average
- Number: How heavy · Gray wolf: 41 to 50 kg (90 to 110 lb) · The note: average
- Number: How fast · Gray wolf: 56.3 km/h (35 mph) · The note: top speed on land, running
- Number: How long it lives · Gray wolf: 4 to 5 years · The note: average in Yellowstone

That last number surprises children, and it's a good one to talk about: the note says it's an average in one park, which is not the same as the longest a wolf can live.

For a whole class

A teacher can print a class set: one sheet per animal for every animal of one habitat, at one band, in a single print. Pick a habitat on the Report Builder, then the band. Each child gets a different animal from the same place, which makes a good wall display afterwards: the savanna, the ocean, the rainforest.

Making the most of it

- Read the passage first. Each sheet's passage is the animal's own page text, so a child who wants more can open the animal's page and hear it read aloud, with each word lit as it's spoken.
- Add a comparison. Older children are asked to compare their animal with another. Compare Two stands any two animals side by side, drawn to scale beside a child.
- Start with fact cards. For younger children, the printable animal fact cards are a gentler first step.
- Check one number together. Pick one number on the sheet, open its source, and find it on that page. It takes two minutes and teaches the most important research habit there is.

Questions grown-ups ask

Which grade band should my child use?

Go by reading, not age. If the Middle passage is a struggle, print the grades 1–2 sheet; the questions are simpler too. You can print the same animal at two bands and let them choose.

Why does a number say "no checked number yet"?

Because Peabody only prints numbers it can point to on a page it uses. For a few animals, nobody has found one yet, and a blank with an honest note is better than a guess on a school report.

Does it work on A4 paper?

Yes. The sheet flows to fit US Letter or A4, and it prints from the page's own Print button or your browser's.

Peabody (peabody.kids) is free through the end of 2026 and has no ads. The library has stories at every reading level for after the report is done.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/animal-report-template-by-grade