



Field Notes, Great Horned Owl. A.P.I. sketch M. Torand 2011

Natural History Sketchbook Spread

Due: _____

Size: 2 full pages in your sketchbook (side by side)

Medium: Graphite. However, Ink and some light watercolor washes or colored pencil is also acceptable.

Parameters: Fill a 2-page sketchbook spread with finished drawings, studies/sketches, writing, and research about one animal of your choice. It would be helpful for you if it was the same endangered animal you are using for your in class project.



1) Find lots of public domain references and written research about your animal from different points of view, different angles, skeletons, movement, textures, habitat, diet, behavior, threats, etc.

2) Print out your references and research so you can work on them during bell work time in class or use them for tutoring.

3) Make at least 2 thumbnails on a separate page to help you layout your composition roughly. You want this to look like field notes, part science, part art.

4) Lightly layout your composition on your final sketchbook spread in graphite pencil first, including the location of the drawings, title, approximately where text will be, etc. The drawings and writing must take up the entire 2 page spread purposefully.

5) Then use graphite or ink, potentially some color, to finalize your sketches, neatly add your writing, and complete your spread.

6) Finish by erasing any stray graphite and any smudges.

7) Evaluate yourself using the form provided below.

Attach the form to the back of your drawing with clear tape and turn in



What I am looking for:

- Complex and ambitious composition using interesting points of view and aspects of your animal
- Fill the pages and create equally interesting text in both style and quality of research
- Full value range on finished drawings/sketches and a variety of mark-making techniques
- Considerable time and effort have been invested in design and completion
- Overall spread is neat, carefully constructed, and finished looking
- Convincing structures/forms and high level of details and textures where appropriate