

## Special Species Project



Over the next couple of weeks, we are asking all of Year 5 to enter the following competition. We would like children to come up with their own species of animal and include the following activities. As well as the activities below, we would also like you to create a powerpoint presentation for your species. Be as creative as you want, this competition is fun! We really want you to take some time over these so please do NOT rush them and make them as wonderful as possible.

### Competition instructions

To enter, create a new species and send the following to [learning@linnean.org](mailto:learning@linnean.org):

The first name, age (in years) and city of the person who created the special species

A picture of your special species

It's scientific and common name

A paragraph giving the reasons for its adaptations and a description of its habitat (aim for around 50 words)

We will be highlighting great works as we receive them.

Winners are awarded in April, July, September and December.

T&C: By entering, you give the Linnean Society permission to use your drawing in future Linnean Society media products, as well as share your artwork during the competition with all audiences, both online and in person. We will give appropriate credit.

## **Background**

Every species has its own unique scientific name that is chosen by the individual or team that discovers it. The name usually reflects something about the species itself.

Carl Linnaeus came up with the 'binomial' naming system, which means two names. Every species is known by two names - we are Homo sapiens (meaning man thinking, or wise).

You can come up with your own special species by combining together different latin or greek words and imagining what the species would look like and why the species might have developed those features through evolution.

## **How to create your own Special Species**

There are three main ways:

Use our online random special species generators.

Download and print our special species card game.

Use the power of your imagination (maybe with some guidance from our word lists)

The link to the website is given below

<https://www.linnean.org/learning/special-species-competition>