Adopt-a-Dino project handout.
This in-depth project requires you to adopt a dinosaur! There are three required components for a successful project:

1. Write a research paper. Be sure to include
   - information about your dinosaur’s anatomy, classification, and relative position in the food chain, and
   - information about the biological and environmental Mesozoic components that affected your dinosaur, including its Mesozoic range and ecosystem.
   - Optional: General discussions of the Mesozoic Era—including plate tectonics, environmental considerations, and extinction theories—are permitted, but should not comprise the majority of the paper.
2. Create a three-phase representative scene that illustrates the biological and geological knowledge gained from your research. Be sure to include
   - your dinosaur and the terrestrial plants and animals with which it interacted, and
   - aquatic and aerial phases with corresponding life forms.
3. Share your research about your adopted dinosaur in a five-minute presentation. You may include
   - PowerPoint slides or overheads, and
   - handouts.

General information about this project.
1. Visit our class website and sign up for your dinosaur adoption choice on the Discussion Board. Make sure that you
   a. Post the name of your chosen dinosaur as the subject when you click on “Add New Thread.”
   b. Do not post a dinosaur that has already been chosen.
   c. Do not post before 9:00 p.m. CST on ________________.
2. The quality of your project will determine the score.
3. *Research papers* should be well-written, in-depth studies of a particular dinosaur. Use the following guidelines:
   a. Research papers should be a minimum of __ typed pages, and a maximum of __ pages, not including appendices.
   b. Use Times New Roman font, size 12. Use 1-inch margins for the top and bottom of your paper, and no more than 1.25-inch margins on the right and left.
   c. Use correct grammar and punctuation. Proofread your paper!
   d. A bibliography is *required*. The minimum number of references cited is ___. Please review what “plagiarism” means, and be careful to cite all material that is not your own.
   e. Projects may be two-dimensional (no larger than 24 × 36 in.) or three-dimensional (no larger than 18 × 18 × 18 in.) representations. Bring your project to class on the day of your presentation.

4. *Projects* are judged on presentation and degree of detail.
   a. Artistic skills are not a requirement.
   b. Projects may be computer-generated images, sketches, or dioramas.
   c. The best projects are those with maximum accuracy and attention to detail.

5. *Presentations* may be no more than five minutes long.
   a. Please summarize your most interesting and important research findings.
   b. Your classmates will “judge” your presentations, so plan on presenting a compact, interesting, and enjoyable summary of your dinosaur.
   c. Presentations will be held on __________ and ________________.

6. The date of your presentation will be randomly assigned.
   a. If you plan to use PowerPoint, you must turn in your CD-ROM at the start of school on your presentation day.
   b. Regardless of your presentation time slot, all research papers are due on ______________.