

Name: _____

**Do Zoos Help or Harm Animals?
Research-Based Argument Essay**

Directions:

- Write a research-based argument essay, convincing readers that zoos either help or harm animals.
- Be sure to use what you know about writing essays to take a position on the topic and back it up with evidence from your research.
- As you write, use information and quotations from the video and any or all of the texts you read to support your claim.
- Read the texts that are included in your packet.
- As you read, ask yourself the guiding question, “Do zoos help or harm animals?”
- Underline the pros and cons of this historical debate. (Compare and contrast each point of view.)
- Create a graphic organizer, and take notes of the pros and cons. (Compare and contrast each point of view.)
- Take a position: make clear whether you believe zoos help or harm animals.
- In the introduction to your essay, write a claim stating your position on whether or not zoos help or harm animals.
- Be sure to list the titles of the texts that you use in your essay.
- Be sure to list the evidence that compares and contrasts the points of view to support your inference/claim.
- Write as much as you can, as quickly as you can. This assignment is due on loose-leaf or it may be typed. You may use several sheets of loose-leaf paper or type it on several sheets of computer paper.
- Use the rubric to ensure that you include all that is required to make your essay powerful.

- **In your writing, make sure you:**
 - **Write your position/inference/claim in your introduction.**
 - **Give several examples from the text as your evidence to support your details/inference/claim.**
 - **Use your extended RACE organizer to help you make sure you are writing a powerful argument essay.**
 - **Use your rubric to help you make sure you are writing a powerful argument essay.**
 - **Use transition words to start new paragraphs and to introduce new examples from the text.**
 - **Use your Writing Prompts packet to help you write powerful transitions.**
 - **Use your Sophisticated Words packet to ensure that you are using powerful words in your argument essay.**
 - **Give several examples from the text as your evidence to support your details/inference/claim.**
 - **Write a conclusion.**

- **Use your COPS list to help you edit your writing.**
- **Check your writing for:**
 - **spelling**
 - **capitalization of proper nouns**
 - **capitalization of the beginning of sentences**
 - **punctuation**
 - **indentation of each new paragraph**
 - **interesting word choice**
 - **See the rubric for more details of expectations.**