

# **RESEARCH PAPER RUBRIC – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Oceans Project**

0=Not evident 1=Minimal 2-3=Some 4= Strong 5=Exceptional

## ***SCORED ELEMENTS***

\_\_\_ Follows proper writing conventions (spelling, capitalization, grammar, punctuation, etc.). Written in a scholarly, third person tone. Includes an appropriately formatted title page)

\_\_\_ Paragraphs include balanced discussion about the selected body of water and includes detailed information on its:

- Location, geology & underwater topography
- Major currents, temperatures, salinity, and other attributes
- Natural resources available in the body of water
- Biological information, including life, interactions, etc.
- Past and present pollution issues and their effects

\_\_\_ Essay is coherent and well-organized, with a logical structure including a strong introduction, body, and conclusion

\_\_\_ Appendix is appropriately formatted, contains at least 2 meaningful and relevant figures (maps, graphs, pictures, etc.) which are self explanatory and add additional depth to the text. Figures are cited/referenced within the body of the paper.

\_\_\_ Obvious that reference materials were used. At least 6 appropriate sources of 3 different types documented in the specified MLA format. Sources do NOT include “Wiki” sites, “Ask” sites, personal blogs, personal websites, historical novels, personal interviews, or movies.

***TOTAL*** \_\_\_\_\_