

## Minnesota Animal Story

Use your Story Plan as an outline for a story featuring a Minnesota animal. Write the story in first person (pretend you are the animal). Your story should be 3 paragraphs long.

Answer these questions to help you write your Somebody paragraph

Animal name \_\_\_\_\_

Type of consumer \_\_\_\_\_

Who eats you \_\_\_\_\_

Minnesota ecosystem your animal lives in \_\_\_\_\_

### Example

#### **Somebody**

Hello, I am a female (girl) Monarch butterfly. I live in the prairies of Minnesota in the summer time. When I was a young caterpillar I ate a prairie plant called milkweed. Once I came out of my chrysalis I started eating nectar from many of the prairie flowers. I am most afraid of big scary spiders that live on the prairie plants and birds flying in the sky. Since I eat from plants and other organisms eat me, I am a primary consumer.

#### **Wanted and But**

I spend most of the day searching for beautiful smelly prairie flowers. My favorite colors of flowers are deep purple and violet. These types of flowers have the sweetest nectar for me to eat. Sometimes I need to find milkweed plants to lay my eggs on. Usually in Minnesota I can find enough food and milkweed on the roadside and in small prairie patches, but this year I am having trouble finding my favorite flowers. Many of the flowers have wilted because there isn't enough water for them to drink. That means less nectar and I don't have enough to eat! The milkweed is dying too because there hasn't been any rain for many weeks. I don't have a good place to lay my eggs for my baby caterpillars. Since I can't find very much food I have to spend longer flying around, looking for flowers. This means that I am even more at risk of getting eaten by birds. I hope it rains soon otherwise I might not survive.

#### **So**

Since the rain still hasn't come I am getting so hungry that I will have leave my prairie and find a spot with more flowers. Perhaps if I fly south and east, closer to the deciduous forest edge I might find some more flowers. The problem is that there will be a lot more birds there too. I hate to leave but I would rather survive.

I try to smell nectar from the flowers as I fly. It is hard work to fly for so long and over such great distances. As I pass the city of St. Paul I very hungry. There is hardly any prairie there. I keep flying south. There has got to be more to eat. Finally after 3 days of non-stop flying I found a beautiful meadow with lots of milkweed and violet flowers. Now it only takes me a couple of hours to eat my food in the middle of the day (there are fewer birds out). I can rest for one more month.