

Biodiversity Research

Scavenger hunt



The museum contains a wealth of information on past and recent biodiversity research stories. Like a library of life, it is also a treasure trove of information for scientists to study and use for their research.

Explore the museum collections and theatre; look for biodiversity research stories about taxonomy, evolution, human uses, ecology, conservation, and more. Highlight two researchers' work below. Infer the details from information found in the museum.

Researcher:
Organism(s) studied:
Research question(s):

Hypothesis:

Conclusion and relevance:

What do you find fascinating about this research?

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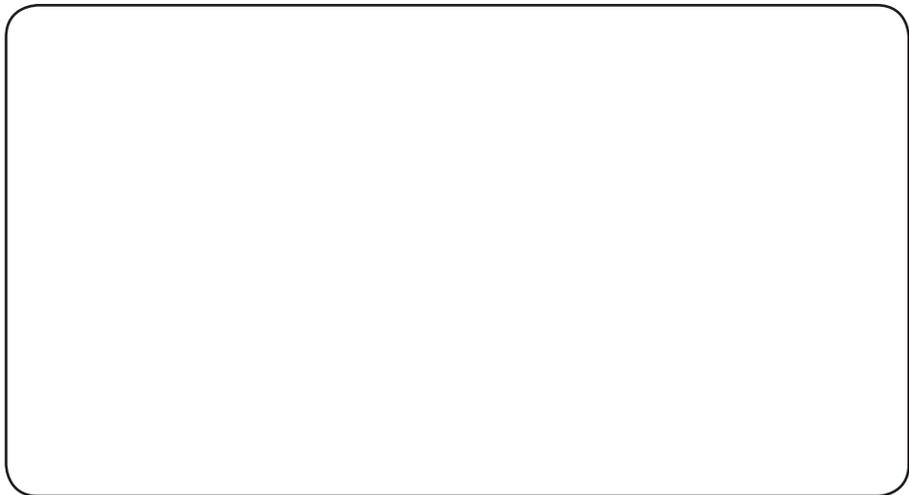
Your Project:

Find a particular collection, taxon, or organism that interests you within the museum. Examine the exhibits and find as much information as you can. Sketch or describe the organism(s) below; include classification information and scientific names.

Take some time to observe the specimen(s) and think about their life history. Are there patterns that you find interesting? Do you have a question about it's ecology, evolution, conservation, genetics, taxonomy, or something else?
Write a research question based on your observations and thoughts below.

From what you've seen at the museum and through other scientists' research, come up with a hypothesis (prediction) for your question. Include a reference if you have one.

How will you test your hypothesis? What type of data do you need to collect? How much data will you need? How long will your study run for? What type of resources do you need? Brainstorm below on how you will conduct and analyze your research.



How could you use the museum collections to help you answer this question?

How will your research impact our knowledge of biodiversity? What future implications could your research project have? Think of species at risk, conservation, climate change, genetics, and more. How could other researchers take your findings and use them to their advantage? *Why is your study relevant?*
