

INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE MUSEUM

DISCOVERY SAFARI FIELD GUIDE

Welcome to the International Wildlife Museum!

Instructions: Review the questions in this guide before you visit the International Wildlife Museum. You should be able to find all the answers as you tour the museum if you carefully observe the exhibits, and read signs and labels.

The International Wildlife Museum is a natural history museum. We do not condone the collecting of specimens specifically for display. Many of the animal specimens are from a 100-year-old collection on loan from the state of Arizona. Others have been donated by government agencies, wildlife rehabilitation centers, captive breeding farms, zoos, other museums and hunters. There are also some replicas.

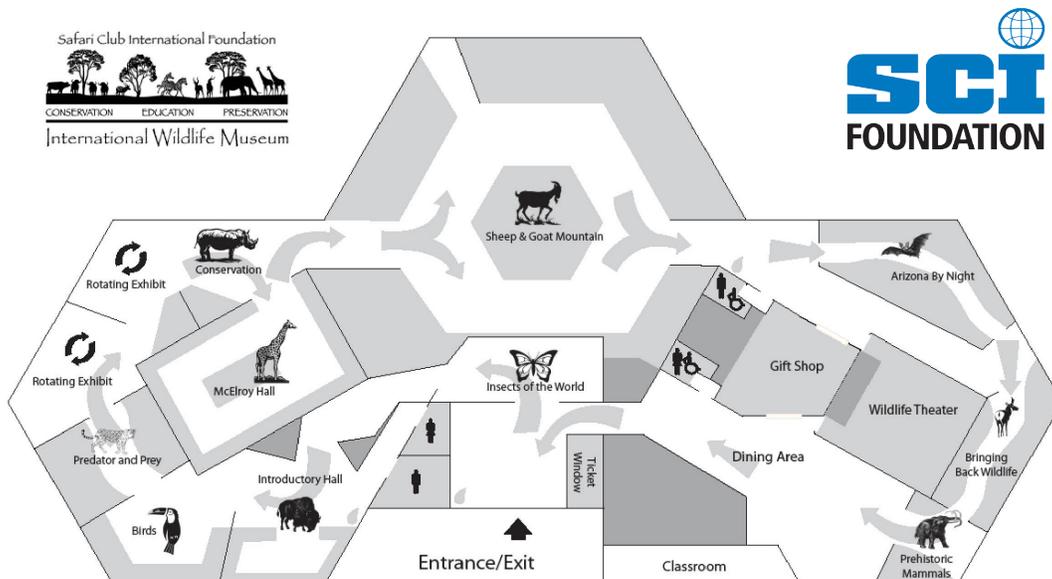
Are the animals in the museum real? Yes, most of them are. The arthropods are carefully pinned to boards so their fragile wings and bodies are not damaged. Taxidermists make the other animals look life-like. They use actual animal skins, but artificial bodies, teeth and eyes. Some taxidermy mounts are completely formed from man-made materials. Exhibit staff create dioramas of their habitats to give you a sense of the animals as they are in the wild.

Why study animals in a natural history museum? You can learn about habits, diets and habitats in a way that most of us cannot with a live animal. You can make comparisons. Not all these animals would be available in a zoo or in our immediate area.

Name _____

Teacher _____

Date _____



IWM is a non-profit education program of Safari Club International Foundation



Animal Adaptations



Imagine what your life would be like if you did not have thumbs. Tying your shoes, using a fork or playing video games would be more difficult without an opposable thumb. Because of this adaptation, humans are better able to survive in their environment. Every animal has **adaptations** that help it to survive in its habitat.

Find animals in the museum with similar characteristics or that are in the same family, For example bears - black, brown, grizzly, polar. *Compare* the similarities and differences that the animals have to help them adapt to their specific environment. Differences could be in color, horns/antlers, claws, hoofs, tails, etc. *Pick* a specific animal and two adaptations. *Write* whether that adaptation helps the animal **get food, move, protect itself, stay warm or camouflage**.

The group of animals I am observing: _____

Similarities: _____

Differences: _____

Animal: _____

Adaptation: _____ This adaptation helps the animal: _____

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Have to Have a Habitat

Habitat is where a plant or animal lives. All animals and humans must have **food, water, shelter, and space** in their habitat to survive. *Choose* three different animals in the museum and *fill in the blanks* with more information about their habitats.

Define habitat: _____

1 This animal's name is _____.

It likes to eat _____.

It gets its water from _____.

It finds shelter _____.

This animal's natural habitat is _____.

Name two animals that might share this animal's habitat:

2 This animal's name is _____.

It likes to eat _____.

It gets its water from _____.

It finds shelter _____.

This animal's natural habitat is _____.

Name two animals that might share this animal's habitat:

3 This animal's name is _____.

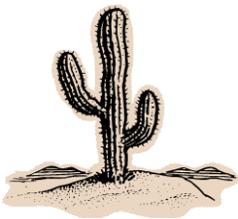
It likes to eat _____.

It gets its water from _____.

It finds shelter _____.

This animal's natural habitat is _____.

Name two animals that might share this animal's habitat:



BONUS: All habitats need to provide _____, _____, _____, and _____.

Predator-Prey Investigation

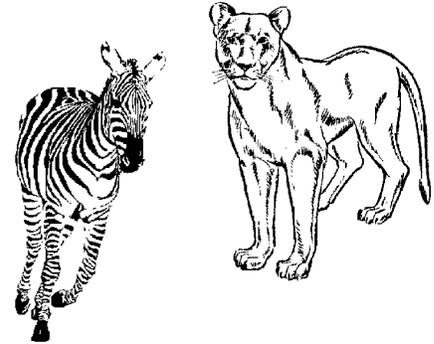
You are going to investigate some museum animals to decide whether they are **predators** or **prey**. Here are some facts to help you. A **predator** is an animal that eats other animals. A **prey** is an animal that is hunted by a predator. Predators are **carnivores** and eat meat, while most prey are **herbivores** and eat plants. But either could be an **omnivore**, and eat both meat and plants.

Prey have:

- Flat teeth to eat plants
- Eyes on the side to watch out for predators
- Adaptations like horns for protection from predators

Predators have:

- Sharp teeth or a sharp beak to eat meat
- Eyes in the front to see prey in the distance
- Sharp claws or talons to catch and kill prey



Choose an animal and write its name on the first line. Then make careful observations and write three characteristics that tell you it is a predator or prey.

1. Animal _____

Choose: Predator or Prey or Both

Three specific adaptations or behaviors that help this animal survive: _____

Create a food chain that starts with the sun and includes this animal:

2. Animal _____

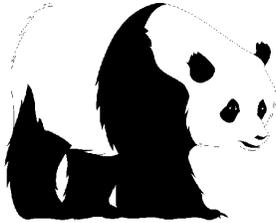
Choose: Predator or Prey or Both

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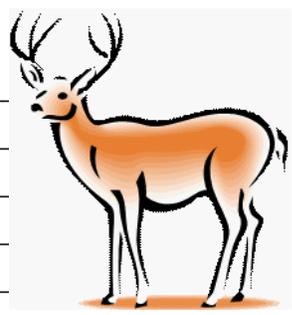
Conservation

As the human population increases, **conservation** (to use or manage wisely), has become more and more important to the survival of many species worldwide. **Habitat loss** is the primary reason animals are becoming endangered. Introduction of **invasive** (non-native) **species**, **disease**, and **pollution** also play a role in declining populations. Without active wildlife management, many new species around the globe will be added to the endangered list and others will become extinct.



Giant pandas are only found in China. There are fewer than 3,000 giant pandas living in the wild today. Name two reasons why giant pandas are endangered.

How does hunting promote species survival? _____



What species have benefited from hunting dollars? _____



Wetlands provide natural flood control, improve water quality by removing pollution, and are an important habitat to a variety of plants and animals. Nearly half of the animal species listed as endangered in the U.S. use wetlands during their lifetime. Can you name five Arizona animals that rely on wetlands to survive?

BONUS: When we conserve nature and wildlife, we use it _____.