

Guess Who I Am!

Pre-school Exhibit Hall Activity

This pre-school activity is designed to allow the interaction of children and adults throughout the Exhibit area. Adults will guide the children to the animal (or have the child find them) as indicated in the text below. Children can identify the animal as well as what type of animal they are viewing (mammal, bird or reptile).

Enter Dynamic Earth Hall: LOOK UP! Say, “Guess what animal this is”. Some children may say a bird. It does have many bird-like qualities although it does not have feathers. This is a **pteranodon**. It is not a dinosaur but a flying reptile. When you go to the other side of this exhibit you can see the babies!



LOOK IN THE CENTER OF THIS EXHIBIT! Say, “Guess what animal this is”. (**Albertosaurus**) Some may say a T-Rex. This dinosaur looks like one. The Albertosaurus lived in what is now Alabama many years ago. Explain that these animals are not found on earth anymore. Extinction- no longer in exists; all the animals in this group (species) have died out leaving no living animal of its kind.



Finish exploring this area and don't forget to visit the cave to see how many more animals you can find.

Spend some time in **Nature Space**, the **hands-on discovery room (located in Alabama Hall to your left)** then continue your tour in Alabama Sands to Cedars Exhibit Hall.

As you exit the hands-on discovery room, you will see this animal right in front of you. Say to your child, “Guess what animal this is”.

(**Cougar, Florida panther**) If they say a cat, that is correct.

Share with your child that this animal is a mammal. It has fur on its body and feeds its babies milk. This animal is not extinct in the United States but is very rarely found in Alabama.



Continue to your left and enjoy the boardwalk where you will discover an alligator, gopher tortoise as well as an aquarium.

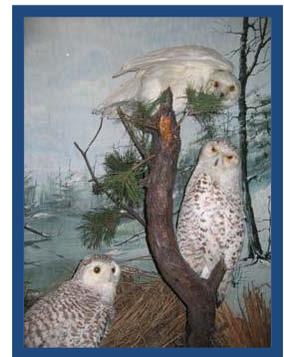
Just around the corner from the beach scene you will find this animal. Say, “Guess what this animal is”. **(This is an Alaskan Brown Bear)** If they say bear, that is correct. This is a mammal also. Ask, “Why is it a mammal”? (It has fur).



Continue to explore this hall **called Attack and Defense**. Don't miss the live **snakes** to your left. This exhibit allows you to discuss several things.

- Explain that you should not ever try to pick up a snake in your yard. Some snakes such as the timber rattler and the copperhead snake are venomous snakes and will hurt you. Others like the rat snake and the hognose snake are not but will still bite you.
- Snakes are important. They should not be killed if at all possible. They eat mice, rats and insects that destroy our crops. If we allow that, we would not have corn to eat or wheat to make bread for a sandwich.

When you enter **the Bird Exhibit Hall called Designs for Living** you will have two animals to look for. Find this animal pictured below and say, “Guess what this animal is”. **(Whooping Cranes)**. If they say a bird, that is correct. Discuss that birds have feathers. This bird has very long legs so it can walk in a pond of water and a sharp beak for spearing fish.

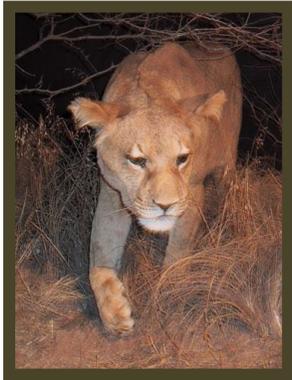


Now explore this Hall some more until you find these three animals. Say” Guess what animal this is”. **(Snowy Owls)** If they say birds, that is correct. It has very big eyes which help it to hunt at night. Explain that both animals discovered are birds but they look very different. One has very long legs and a long beak and the other has short legs with powerful claws (talons) and a short pointed beak. They live in different habitats (homes) so their tools (claws and beaks) are different.

Now it is time to visit **the Africa Exhibit Hall**. Find this beautiful animal.

It has fur and roars. Say, “Guess what this animal is”. It is a **Lion (may say cat)**. If it has fur, what type animal is it? (a mammal).

Lion



Zebra



Continue to explore the African Hall. There are many large animals that live in Africa. Find the animal that looks like it is wearing striped pajamas! Say, “Guess what animal this is”. (**A zebra- some may say a horse and it is very much like a horse- talk about the similarities**). A Zebra has fur/hair. What type animal is it? (mammal). The zebra and horse are in the same family but a horse is more easily domesticated, has a long mane and its muzzle is pink, brown or black where the zebra’s muzzle is always black. The greatest difference is the zebra’s stripes!

Continue to explore Africa and move through the **Egypt Gallery**.

Exit to your right down the hallway. Have a great day and come back to see us soon. Please take a minute to visit our website www.annistonmuseum.org and click on educational resources. There you will find a teacher/educator survey. Please take a minute to tell us about your visit. Thank you.