

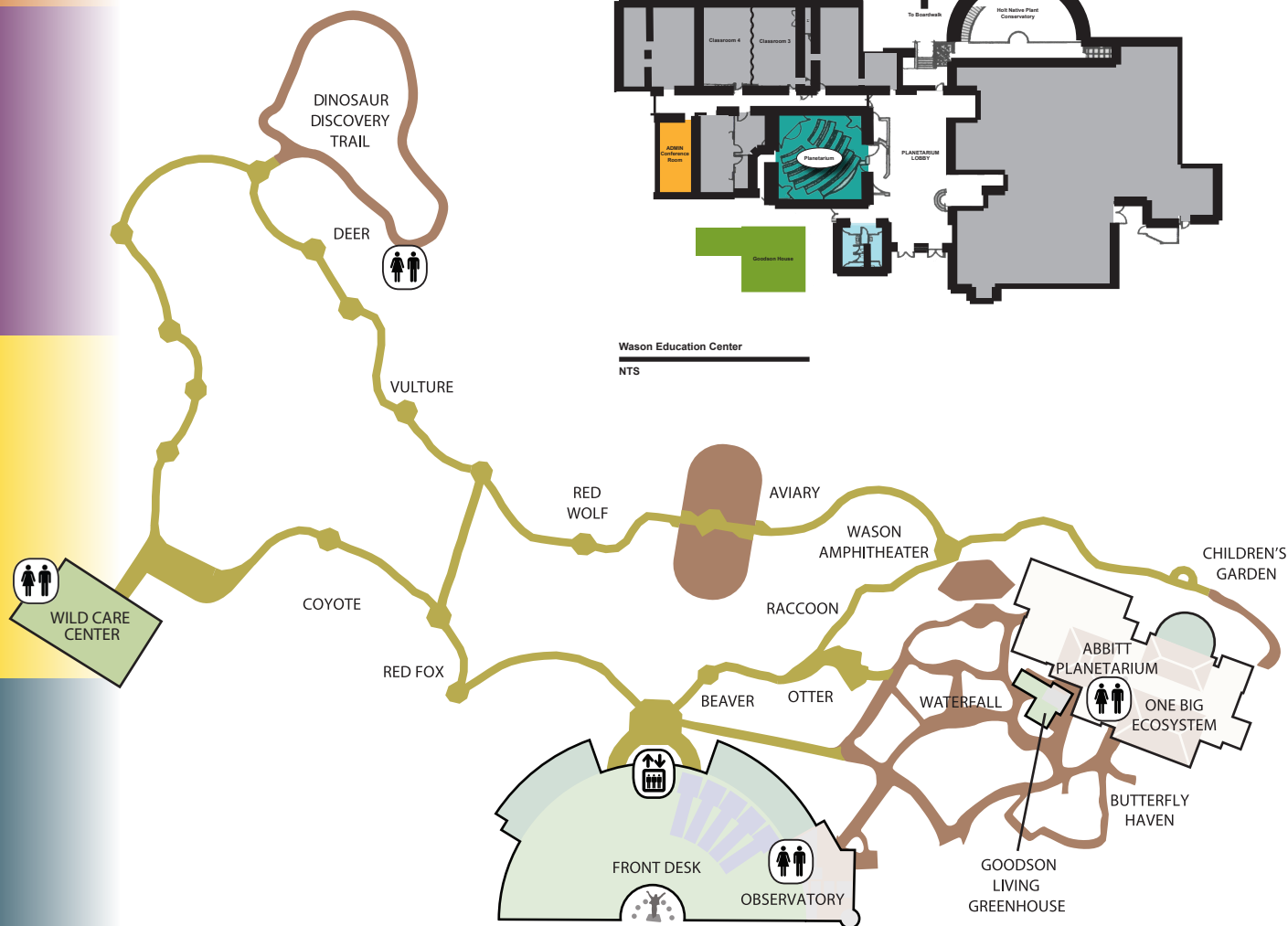
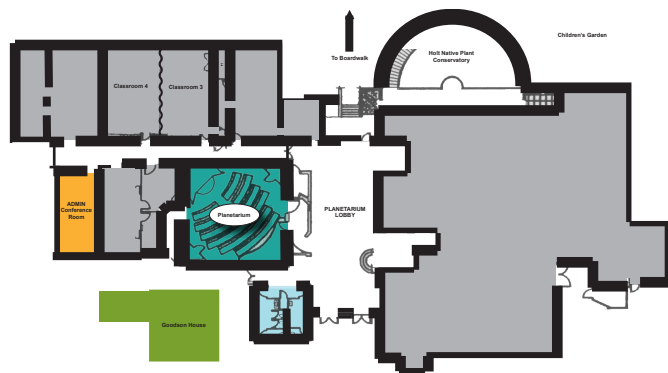
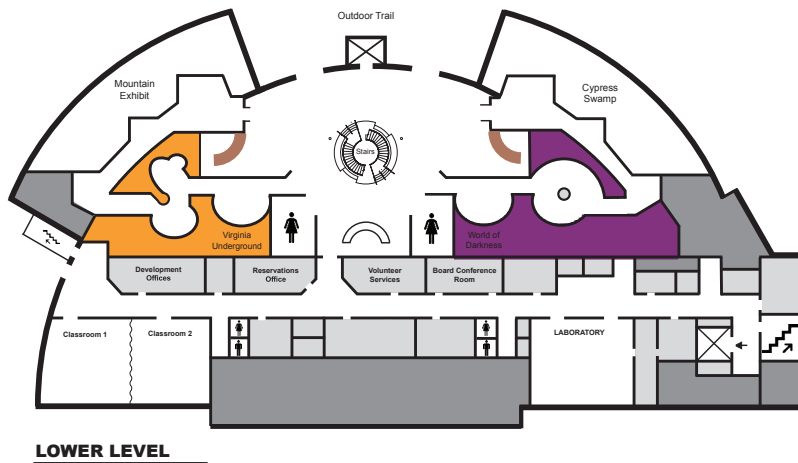
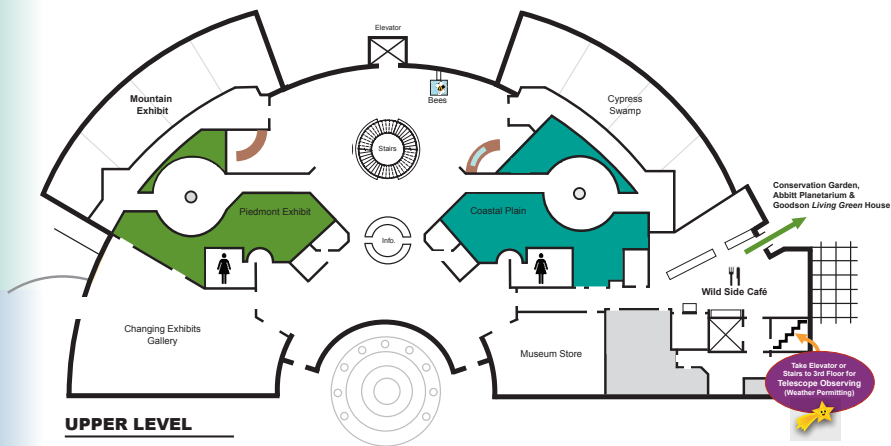
VIRGINIA
Living
museum



MUSEUM VISIT GUIDE

FIRST GRADE





Please review the following guidelines with your students and chaperones prior to your visit:

Museum Guidelines

- Respect others in your group and other museum visitors.
- Use indoor voices.
- Walk in the museum.
- No food or drink outside of designated picnic areas.
- Students are not permitted to carry backpacks/large bags in the museum.
- Teachers and chaperones MUST stay with their groups at all times.
- For the safety and enjoyment of all visitors, disruptive or unsafe behavior will not be permitted and may result in the entire group being asked to leave without a refund.

Respect the Animals

- Do not yell at the animals on the outdoor trail. This includes howling at our coyotes and wolves.
- Do not attempt to touch or feed any animal.
- Do not bang or tap on the aquarium glass.
- If an animal is touched at the Touch Pool, please wash hands or use hand sanitizer.
- Do not climb on exhibits.
- Keep hands out of the aquarium water.

We've listed some suggested activities to conduct with your students before and after your visit.

Pre-Visit

- What are the five main things animals need to survive? Design your own animal habitat making sure you have everything the animal needs to survive.
- What does "physical characteristics" mean? What are some examples?

Post-Visit

- What was your favorite animal to see at the museum? Draw and label the physical characteristics the animal has to help it survive? Draw or describe their habitat.
- If you created an animal habitat before your visit, compare with what you saw at the museum. How was your habitat the same or different?



Use the following guided questions to engage your students throughout the museum.

Front of Museum

- (1.6) Use the sundial to determine the time of day when you arrive and leave. Did your shadow move?
*Make sure to step on the mark for your height.

Coastal Plains Gallery:

- (1.5) Find an animal that has a physical characteristic that serves a function (i.e. fins, shell, claws). How does this help the animal to survive?

Piedmont & Mountains Gallery:

- (1.1) Find two animals that look alike. What makes them different? How are they similar? Do they need the same things to survive?

World of Darkness:

- (1.1) How many frogs do you see in the tree frog exhibit? Compare with another classmate. Did they count more or less than you?

Cypress Swamp Gallery:

- (1.1) Observe the fish swimming. How do they move their bodies?

VA Underground:

- (1.1) Observe the different coral species in the coral exhibit. Do they move differently from each other? How do the fish interact with the coral?

Mountain Cove Gallery:

- (1.4) Observe the plants in the exhibit. Do these plants have everything they need to survive?

Conservation Command Center:

- (1.8) Name a way that you can help to conserve resources.

Outdoor Trail:

(1.5) Pick one of the animal exhibits and find all the basic needs (food, water, shelter, space, air) for the animal to survive. Compare with another exhibit. How are they different? How are they the same?

Wild Care Center:

- (1.7) How are animals impacted by colder weather? What might they do during winter to help them survive in the cold?



ANSWER KEY:

Front of Museum

- (1.6) Use the sundial to determine the time of day when you arrive and leave. Did your shadow move? **Make sure to step on the mark for your height. Yes, the shadow moved! The Earth rotates each day making it seem like the sun is moving across the sky.*

Coastal Plains Gallery:

- (1.5) Find an animal that has a physical characteristic that serves a function (i.e. fins, shell, claws). How does this help the animal to survive? *Fins to help swim, shells for protection, claws to catch food, etc.*

Piedmont & Mountains Gallery:

- (1.1) Find two animals that look alike. What makes them different? How are they similar? Do they need the same things to survive? *No matter which two animals are selected, all animals need food, water, shelter, space, and air to survive.*

World of Darkness:

- (1.1) How many frogs do you see in the tree frog exhibit? Compare with another classmate. Did they count more or less than you? *The frogs can be difficult to see due to camouflage. Highlight where the frogs are choosing to sit in the exhibit and discuss how this helps them stay hidden.*

Cypress Swamp Gallery:

- (1.1) Observe the fish swimming. How do they move their bodies? *They move their tails side to side which helps them push against the water and move forward.*

VA Underground:

- (1.1) Observe the different coral species in the coral exhibit. Do they move differently from each other? How do the fish interact with the coral? *Some corals can move in a swaying motion with the current while others remain still. Fish will often interact with coral by eating things off of them, or swimming into them for protection depending on the fish.*

Mountain Cove Gallery:

- (1.4) Observe the plants in the exhibit. Do these plants have everything they need to survive? *Yes! The plants have water, sunlight, soil, and carbon dioxide.*

Conservation Command Center:

- (1.8) Name a way that you can help to conserve resources. Reduce, reuse, recycle, and refuse. *Avoid single use plastics, turn off water faucets while brushing your teeth, and play outside more.*

Outdoor Trail:

- (1.5) Pick one of the animal exhibits and find all the basic needs (food, water, shelter, space, air) for the animal to survive. Compare with another exhibit. How are they different? How are they the same? *Every exhibit should have the 5 basic needs: food, water, air, space, and shelter. May have more plants or climbing structures than others depending on the specific animal.*

Wild Care Center:

- (1.7) How are animals impacted by colder weather? What might they do during winter to help them survive in the cold? *They may have less food and energy in winter. Our skunks will go into torpor in the winter – they decrease their activity level. This helps them need less food and energy to survive in the cold winter months.*

