



Grades 4-5: Outdoor Habitats Guide

Answers can be found by reading exhibit signs or by observing the animals in their habitats.

Otter Exhibit

What are three adaptations otters have for the water?

Streamlined body, webbed feet, rudder-like tail, long facial whiskers, dense & oily fur, layer of body fat, valves in ears and nostrils.

Coastal Plain Aviary Exhibit

Birds have different beak shapes. Draw the beaks that you see below.

Answers will vary. Examples include:



Red Wolf Exhibit

How is the wolf using the living and nonliving things in its habitat?

Answers will vary. Examples include: He is using non-living items for shelter, for camouflage, to play with, etc. He is using the living items for camouflage, he is walking by the plants, etc.

Dinosaur Discovery Trail

Name one dinosaur that is a carnivore (meat-eater) Answers will vary: Guanlong, Allosaurus, Deinonychus, Velociraptor, Spinosaurus, Dromaeosaurus, Tyrannosaurus, Pteranodon.

Name one dinosaur that is a herbivore (plant-eater) Answers will vary: Brachiosaurus, Stegosaurus, Tenontosaurus, Parasaurolophus, Hypsilophodon, Triceratops.

White-Tailed Deer

Write a food chain using the animals in this habitat.

Answers will vary.

Sun → Grass → Bug → Turkey

Bobcat Exhibit

What do you think would happen to the number of rabbits and squirrels if bobcats went extinct?

Answers will vary. The rabbit and squirrel populations would increase if bobcats went extinct.

Grades 4-5: Indoor Exhibit Guide



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Touch Tank (Upper Level)

Ask the touch tank volunteer to see the plastic bag and the jellyfish in the jar.

How do they look the same?

Answers will vary. Examples include: They are both clear, they both float in the water, etc.

How do they look different?

Answers will vary. Examples include: The jellyfish is smaller, the plastic bag does not have tentacles, etc.

How could plastic bags in the ocean impact marine animals?

Answers will vary. Examples include: Animals may eat the plastic bags, animals may get confused, etc.

Virginia's Coastal Plain Gallery (Upper Level)

How many flounders do you see? Answers will vary.

Flounders use the adaptation of camouflage to blend into the sand on the ocean floor. What do you think would happen if the sand in their habitat suddenly turned pink?

Answers will vary. If the sand were to turn pink, the flounders would not be able to camouflage.

Virginia's Underground Gallery (Lower Level)

How does the black rat snake interact with nonliving parts of the habitat?

Answers will vary. Examples include: He is using non-living items for shelter, for camouflage, to play with, etc. He is using the living items for camouflage, he is walking by the plants. etc.

Appalachian Mountain Cove Habitarium (Lower Level)

How does the Northern Copperhead get energy? Circle one.

Sun

Plants

Mice

Dirt

Water

What was your favorite part about today? Answers will vary.