



Grades 4-5: Outdoor Habitats Guide

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

Otter Exhibit

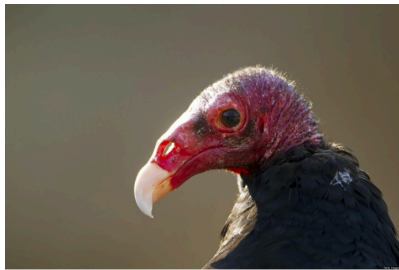
What are three adaptations otters have for the water?

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

Vulture Exhibit

Birds have different beak shapes. Draw the beaks that you see below. What might this bird eat?

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.

Wild Care Center

Our animals are less active in the winter. How might their niche or habitat change during this time?

They will not need as much food during this time, they will likely find a den or warm area for habitat, in all their niche gets much smaller.

Write a food chain using the animals you've seen today.

Sun → Underwater Plants → Fish → Turtle → Alligator



Grades 4-5: Indoor Exhibit Guide

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Virginia's Coastal Plain Gallery (Upper Level)

How many silver fish do you see? Answers will vary

Many fish use the adaptation of schooling, why is schooling a useful behavior?

Power in numbers, confusing predators, etc.

Piedmont Gallery (Upper Level)

Observe two different types of turtles in this gallery. Describe how they are similar and different.

Answer will vary. Will include things such as size, color, shape, and habitat (land vs. aquatic).

Virginia's Underground Gallery (Lower Level)

Observe one of the animal exhibits. How do the animals interact with nonliving parts of the habitat?

Answers will vary. Examples include: They are using non-living items for shelter, for camouflage, to climb or crawl over and explore. They are also using non-living things for their basic needs such as breathing and acquiring water.

Appalachian Mountain Cove Habitarium (Lower Level)

How does a snake get energy? Circle one.

Sun

Plants

Mice

Dirt

Water

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