

Name/s _____

Student Inquiry Guide



Natural History Gallery

Grades 3 – 7



While you are in the gallery:

- THINK** Think about the questions as a group
- LOOK** Find any connections in the gallery to the question
- TALK** Talk about what you have found
- DO** Record what you find out on the inquiry page

Natural History:
Palaeontology Survey



YOU ARE HERE



KEY QUESTION

What can looking at a fossil or a bone tell us?

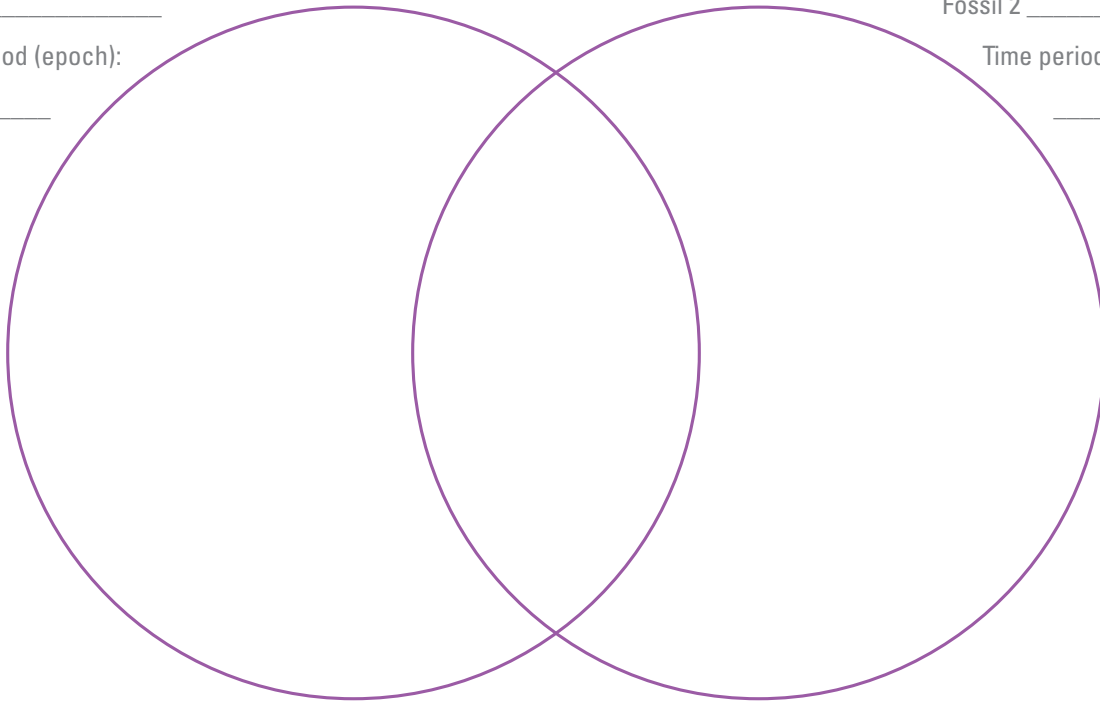
- Look at the Mammoth and Mastodon teeth in the display case called *Ice House* (fossils 7, 8, 13, 14, 15). What are some similarities or differences that you notice?
- Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast facts or observations about two other BC fossils.
(hint: look on the top part of the wall to find the time period/epoch)

Fossil 1 _____

Fossil 2 _____

Time period (epoch):

Time period (epoch):



One question I have about these fossils:

One possible answer:

FACTS

COPROLITE

Look along the side of the wall for a 'Coprolite'. They look like rocks but these are actually fossilized animal droppings!! You might think these are gross but they come in handy. We can use what is found inside them to tell us the diets of animals, and what other plants and animals were around at that time.



HIDE N' SEEK

Take a look at the mammoth display. It is not the only animal in the diorama. Try and find the other camouflaged animal. Need a hint? Listen for the sound this animal makes.

SURVIVORS

Find the 'Beyond the Ice' display. What animals do you see that have survived up to today?

Natural History:
**Climate Rules /
 Nature on the Move**



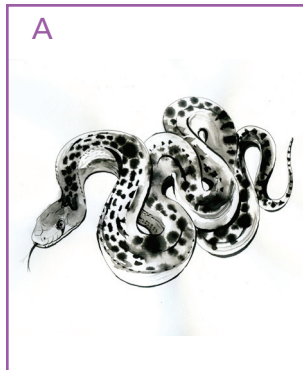
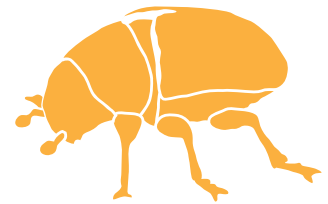
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- Enter the *Climate Rules* exhibit. Look around the 'climate zone' room and try to find the difference between temperature and climate. What is the difference?
- Look at the 'Nature on the Move' cases, and find the animals on your sheet. Write down their names, where they live and what would happen to them if BC's climate changes any further.
- Do you think their coming or going will affect any other plants or animals in the area?

What is the difference between climate and temperature?

Climate _____

Temperature _____



D Choose what you want!

Name	Where do they live? (habitat)	What will happen if BC's climate changes further?
A _____	_____	_____
B _____	_____	_____
C _____	_____	_____
D _____	_____	_____

Artwork provided by RBCM artist in residence Aimee van Drimmelen

FACTS

FIRE EFFECTS

There is a glass patio door on display, but you might not recognize it! See what happened to it after a widespread Okanagan fire in 2003 in the *Summer Fires* case.



BE STILL, MY HEART!

Find the Vancouver Island marmot, one of the most endangered animals in BC. Vancouver Island marmots hibernate for nearly seven months of the year. During that time, the marmot's heart beats three or four times per minute!

Natural History:
Forest & Ocean Comic Strip

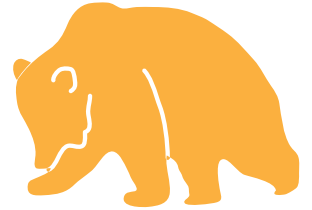


YOU ARE HERE

- Look around for a familiar plant or animal you have seen before. Try and locate the **name** of the plant/animal and what **region of BC** it is from based on the display.



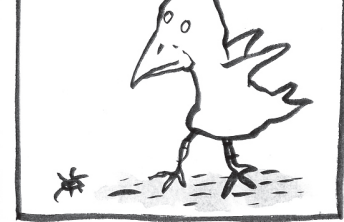
Name _____ Region _____

- What do you think are some of the food sources of the animals you see?



Make your own comic

- Create a comic strip about two of the animals you see in the forest or ocean displays. Make a situation where they are trying to find food. What do they choose to eat?

SOMEWHERE IN THE DEEP WILDERNESS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA:	<p>I GET MY FOOD FROM THE GROUND! I LOVE GRASS!</p> 	<p>WELL, I GET MY FOOD FROM THE TOPS OF TREES! I LOVE ACORNS!</p> 	<p>I EAT BUGS.</p> 
SOMEWHERE IN THE DEEP WILDERNESS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA:			

Comic provided by RBCM artist in residence Gareth Gaudin

FACTS



SCORPIONS ON VANCOUVER ISLAND?

Well, not really, but BC is home to the false scorpion! These arachnids share the same shape as scorpions, minus the dangerous tail! Find one catching a snack in the soil display.

FISH-FED TREES

Try and find the spawning salmon. When salmon move upstream to spawn and die, they leave behind a rich source of nutrients, like nitrogen, for the surrounding environment. Trees on the banks of salmon-stocked rivers can grow more than three times faster than trees next to salmon-free rivers!



Natural History:
Aliens Among Us



YOU ARE HERE

Look at *Test Your Invader IQ* video panel, located in the *Delta Diorama*.

For each question, write down notes about one of the invaders shown. Before you push a button to solve the question, guess which invader will be lit up in the answer.

Press "Reset" to clear the screen before you start.

Before you press...Guess!

Alien Invaders: Which of these aliens have been designated as some of the world's most serious invaders?

Invader _____

Why is it considered the worst?

Alien Impacts:

Which of these aliens had negative impacts on ecosystems or native species?

Invader _____

What are the impacts?

Have you ever seen any of these invaders in the wild? Which ones?



FACT



COULD YOU CATCH IT?

How many hand lengths does it take to cover the length of the great white sturgeon on the wall? Start at the left hand side, when the sturgeon was just a small fishy!

_____ hand lengths

Natural History:

Birds and Beaks

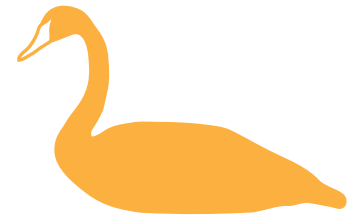
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- All these different birds live in the same area, but have developed different ways to find and collect food. Have a look at the different beaks and birds on display in the delta and feel the beaks mounted on the display panel.
- When you have read about the different beaks, write down the purpose of each:

Short Beaks: _____

Long Beaks: _____

Spoon-shaped Beaks: _____



- Choose two different birds and record your observations about their features either by drawing or describing them.

Bird name _____	Size (estimate in cm) _____
Beak Observations	Feet and Leg Observations

Bird name _____	Size (estimate in cm) _____
Beak Observations	Feet and Leg Observations

Find the eagle and turkey vulture display. Have a look at their beaks and feet in comparison to the other birds on display.

Are they used for the same reasons as the other delta birds?

 Yes No What do you think they are adapted for doing?


FACT
STUCK IN THE MUD!

Learn how many things are living in a handful of mud by finding the squishy mud square on the side panel. Check out the mud under the microscope too!