

## Animal Scavenger Hunt

1. Fish Fossils (B3) – Placed in the windows are some real fish fossils! The first fish-like creatures evolved around 540 million years ago. They developed gills to absorb oxygen more effectively, which allowed fish to grow bigger and become more active.



2. Whales & Dolphins (D2) – Did you know that whales and dolphins are descended from land mammals? They belong to a group of animals called Cetaceans. Cetaceans have adapted to hold their breath for long periods of time; the record is over three hours!



3. Elephant (F2) – Elephants are native to Africa and Asia. Because of their size, strength, and intelligence, they have been used by humans for hundreds of years to help move materials and fight wars. Elephants symbolize loyalty, power, wisdom, and fertility in different cultures.





4. Spider (G1) - There are over 40,000 different kinds of spiders around the world! Did you know spiders avoid vibrations caused by loud sounds as it can mess up their ability to detect prey? The spider in this window represents Anansi, a trickster god from West African folklore.



5. Horses & Camels (K2) – Pack animals such as horses, donkeys, and camels were first domesticated by humans around 4,000 BC. These animals can travel long distances and carry heavy loads, making trade and transportation easier and more efficient.





6. Giant Moa (L3) – Giant moas were large, ostrich-like birds native to New Zealand. They were one of the tallest bird species ever known, often measuring over six feet tall. Moa became extinct around 1445 CE because of habitat loss and overhunting by early Māori settlers.



7. Huskies (M2) – For thousands of years, arctic peoples such as the Inuit have used dogs for transportation. Dog breeds such as huskies have thick coats to help them survive cold weather, and their speed and endurance allow them to pull sleds across long distances.





8. American Alligator (O3) – Alligators are large reptiles that live in rivers, swamps, and lakes. They can grow to be almost 12 feet long and are protected by a layer of bony plates that grow on their backs. Alligators can also go through up to 3,000 teeth in their lifetime!



9. Prairie Dog (S3) – Prairie dogs are a species of ground squirrel native to North America. They live in family groups called coterie and create intricate tunnel networks known as “prairie dog towns.” Prairie dogs also have one of the most advanced animal languages!



10. Jellyfish (U1) – Jellyfish are found all over the world and have roamed the seas for over 600 million years. Though they have no brain, bones, or heart, their nervous system allows them to detect light and movement so they can navigate the water. Some even glow in the dark!





11. Nene (W3) – The Nene is the state bird of Hawaii. They have long legs and less webbing between their toes compared to other geese, allowing them to walk on lava! Unfortunately, they are endangered because of hunting and habitat loss making them the rarest goose in the world.



12. Chimpanzee (X3) – Chimpanzees are a species of primate native to the rainforests of central Africa. They are very intelligent and have been known to use tools and even learn sign language! This chimpanzee is pictured with Jane Goodall, a renowned primatologist.



