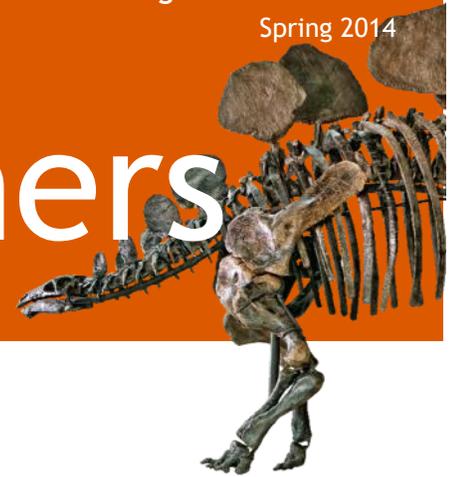




For Teachers



NGSS at NHM

Dear Teachers,

Even if you're not a science teacher, you've probably gotten an earful about the Next Generation Science Standards over the past few months. Here at the Natural History Museum we've been listening too, and strategizing about how to serve you all through this major transition.

The Museum can provide support for you in two primary ways: first by providing resources for you to use with your students, and second by offering professional development opportunities for you. We have spent the last few months revisiting our exhibit-based lessons plans and activities and re-aligning them to connect to both NGSS and the Common Core Standards. Much of what we are already doing in Museum curriculum and programs nicely support NGSS Science and Engineering Practices! Check out these great lessons at nhm.org/for-teachers/lessons-and-activities.

Our teacher workshops have also been geared towards NGSS, including two of our upcoming workshops, the Nature of Science Part II (participation in part I is not necessary!) on March 22nd, and Urban Wildlife Illustration on March 29th.

As always, we are excited to serve you and your students as we all journey into this new, uncharted territory.

Molly Porter
Manager, School and Teacher Programs

Spring Has Sprung!

The gardens are shifting into high-gear-growing, and students are in high-gear learning here at the NHM. Spring is the busiest season for schools visits—and we love watching our exhibits and gardens burst with the excitement and wonder students bring to them! (Side note, check out the link Molly provided above for a sweet Nature Gardens activity like one pictured left, and watch for more coming soon!)

Just a reminder, the *Butterfly Pavilion*, *Nature Lab*, *Traveling the Silk Road* and *Encounters* need a reservation in addition to school General Admission. These are also seasonal and may have grade restrictions, so visit nhm.org/for-teachers/visit-the-museum/programming for more info. If you have questions or want to add reservations to a visit, call (213) 763-3529 or e-mail info@nhm.org.

See you soon!

Kristen Metzger
Coordinator, School Programs



This Month's Issue:

NGSS at the NHM

Spring Has Sprung!

Highlighted Hall:
Discovery Center

Upcoming Programs
and Events



Highlighted Hall: *Discovery Center*

The Discovery Center has been one of our most popular exhibits, no matter where it has lived! Its current home on Level 2 boasts lovely natural light and a great view of our South Lawn, the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and our Pavilion. It's one of the best hands-on exhibits, where you and your students can meet live bugs, bird watch, touch horns, antlers and minerals. You and your classroom can even design your own Museum! The best part, no reservations needed—just come on in!

Upcoming Programs & Events

Pleistocene 101 at the Page Museum
Saturday, March 8, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us at the Page for a morning to look back in time into L.A.'s ancient history! Discover what fossils from Rancho La Brea teach us about biodiversity, climate and geologic change in Southern California.

To register e-mail: schoolprograms@tarpits.org

Next Generation Science Standards & The Nature of Science; Continued
Saturday March 22, 2014, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Delve further into the Nature of Science with Dr. Paul Narguizian and examine how we can use scientific language and concepts to invite critical thinking, implement best science practices and incorporate Next Generation Science Standards in our teaching. Part 1 participation is not required.

To register visit:
nhm.org/for-teachers/professional-development

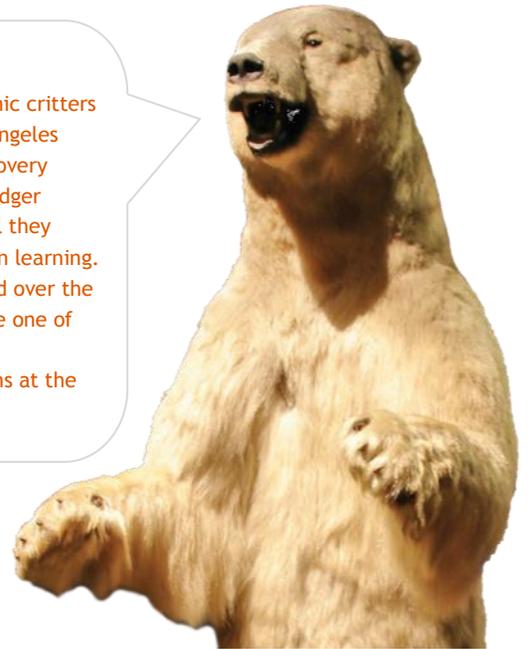
Urban Wildlife & Scientific Illustration
Saturday, March 29, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Observe the world around you, notice local wildlife, and get an intro to scientific drawing! Join artist and educator Stacey Vigallon from the L.A. Audubon to learn skills to teach your students, and incorporate illustration into classroom science notebooks and nature journals.

To register visit:
nhm.org/for-teachers/professional-development

Feature Fact >

I'm one of the most iconic critters at the NHM, and a Los Angeles Dodger! Before the Discovery Center, I lived in the Dodger Stadium VIP lounge until they donated me for hands-on learning. Since 1991, I've watched over the DC denizens and become one of the most loved, and photographed, specimens at the Museum.



Don't Forget!

Our newest special exhibit, *Traveling the Silk Road*, is only here until April 13, so make sure to book a visit soon! Through the lens of a merchant or scholar, students can experience the cities of Xi'an, Turfan, Samarkand, and Baghdad during the height of the famous trade network. School groups enter free with a reservation between 9:30 and 11:00 am on weekdays. For exhibit-related lesson plans and activities, check out our website at nhm.org/for-teachers/lessons-and-activities.

How to Book

Go to nhm.org/for-teachers and click on the **Visit the Museum** link for step-by-step instructions on how to plan your day and submit a visit request!