



# Teachable Moments

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Duration

10-15 minutes

### Location

Mammal Halls

### Standards

#### NGSS

4-LS1-1, (4-LS1-2),  
ESS1.C, ESS2.A, ESS2.B,  
LS1.A, LS3.B, LS4.C

#### S+E Practices

(1), 2, 3, 6, 7

#### CCSS ELA

SL.1.b.c.d, SL.2, (SL.3)

#### CA State

Life Science 3a.b.d

Social Science 4.1

Reading

Comprehension 2.6

## Mammal Halls

The Mammal Halls show a variety of African and North American animals in their natural environments, so you and your students can glimpse gazelles or peek at polar bears without ever having to leave Los Angeles! For more about these exhibits visit: [www.nhm.org/explore-exhibits/permanent-exhibits.../african-mammals](http://www.nhm.org/explore-exhibits/permanent-exhibits.../african-mammals) or [/north-american-mammals](http://www.nhm.org/explore-exhibits/permanent-exhibits.../north-american-mammals)

## Science

- While observing a diorama, ask students to find five examples of both living and nonliving components in the environment.
- Choose two dioramas with different habitats and ask students: If these two animals switched homes, what might happen? Would the animals successfully survive? Why or why not? (Suggested dioramas: Northern Fur Seal and Jaguar in the North American Mammal Hall Level 2, or the Musk Ox and Bison in the North American Mammal Hall Level 1)
- Briefly review what animals need to survive (food, water, and shelter) and while observing a diorama, explore where the animal might be getting those needs in that habitat.

## Social Studies

- While observing a diorama, ask students: could the environment in this diorama represent one of California's four regions (mountains, desert, coast, or valley)? What do you see that makes you say that?

## Language Arts

- Tell students you are going to say some facts and opinions about a diorama. Have students give a thumbs up for a fact, and a thumbs down when they hear an opinion. For example:

*"Musk Ox are the most awesome mammals"* (OPINION)

*"Musk Ox are related to goats"* (FACT)