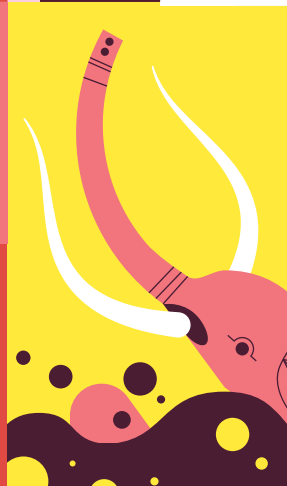
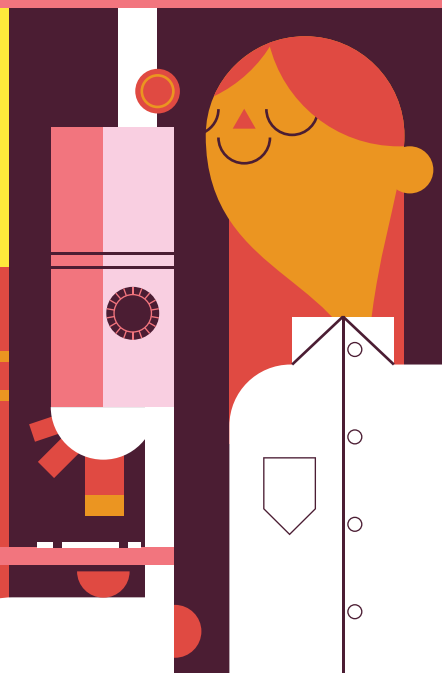




DINOSAUR HALL ADVENTURE

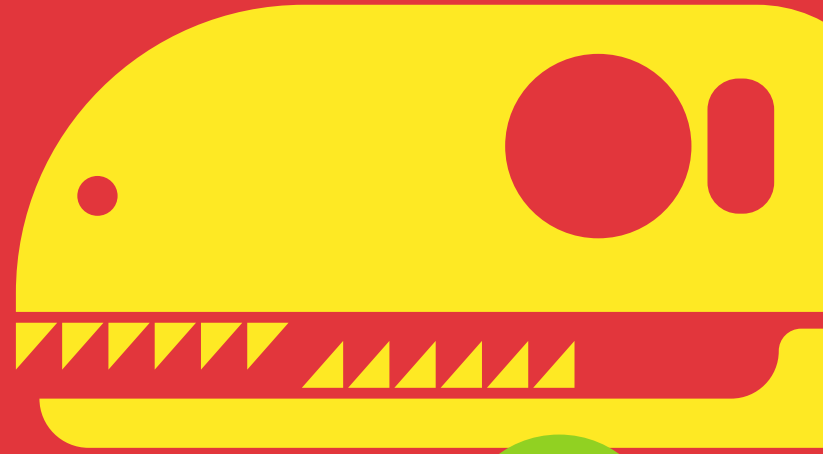
Activity Book &
Reading Recommendations

GRADES 1 – 3



DINOSAUR HALL ADVENTURE

Activity Book &
Reading Recommendations



GRADES
1-3

INTRODUCTION

This guide contains a collection of activities inspired by books in the Natural History Museum's Museum Store. These activities can either be used before your visit to the Dinosaur Hall or as a follow-up to learn more about dinosaurs!

MATERIALS

- Drawing or writing utensils (can include markers, colored pencils, etc.)
- For further reading:
 - A. *Sleepover at the Museum* by Karen LeFrak
 - B. *Thomas the T. Rex* by Michael Smith
 - C. *I Am a Big Dinosaur* by Francois Crozat
 - D. *Dictionary of Dinosaurs* by Dieter Braun
 - E. *How the Dinosaur Got to the Museum* by Jessie Hartland

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ACTIVITY

1

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

What is a museum? A museum is a type of building that houses artifacts and other objects about art, culture, history, science and more. Have you been to a museum before? Circle your answer below:

YES**NO****I'M NOT SURE**

What interesting things did you see at the museum you visited?
If you haven't been to a museum before, what would you like to see?
Write or draw things you have seen in a museum before (or would like to see in a museum)!

1 EXAMPLE: I saw dinosaur fossils in the Dinosaur Hall.

2**3**

4 BEFORE YOUR VISIT

What are museums? Find a friend, teacher, or family member and talk about it! Take a moment to tell each other what you already know about museums and what you want to know about museums now. After you visit, talk over what you learned about museums. In the space provided, feel free to jot down what you talked about:

What I know about museums	What I want to know about museums	What I learned about museums
EXAMPLE: Some museums have fossils of animals that lived long ago.	EXAMPLE: How do the fossils get to the museum?	EXAMPLE: Paleontologists bring them back from excavations.



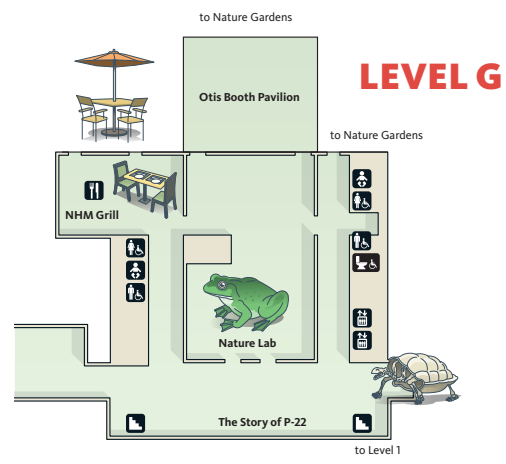
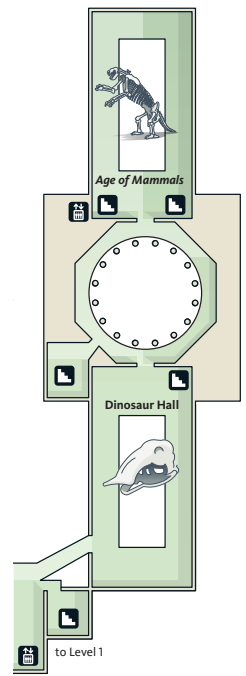
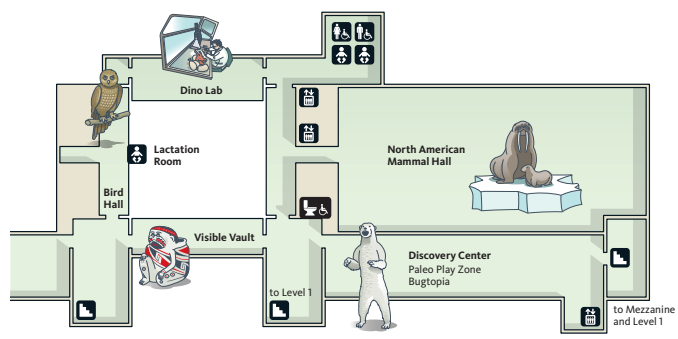
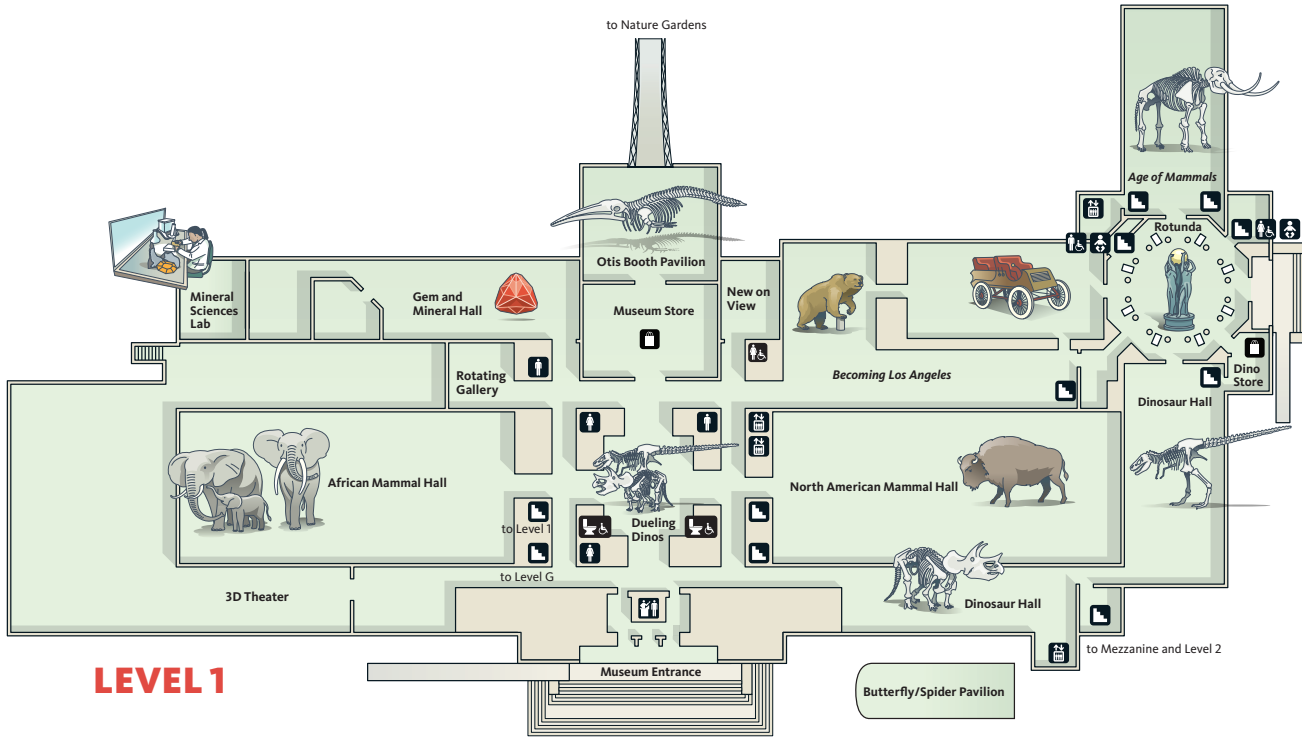
**If you were going to make your own museum, what would you display?
Draw and label three objects that you would choose to put on display in
your museum below:**

Name of your museum: _____

--	--	--

6 BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Take a close look at the map of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County below. Before your visit, put a star next to exhibits (or areas of the Museum) you would be most excited to visit:



What do you hope to see in the exhibits? Circle what you're most excited to see below:



DINOSAURS



INSECTS



FOSSILS



GEMS & MINERALS



REPTILES



NATURE



MAMMALS



OCEANS

For more, read *Sleepover at the Museum* by Karen LeFrak

Reading Level: Ages 3 – 7

Mason couldn't wait to celebrate his birthday with a sleepover at the museum of natural history – his favorite place to visit. Armed with headlamps for the dark hallways, a map, and a list of clues, Mason and his two best friends take off on a scavenger hunt through each hall of the museum.

ACTIVITY
2

AMAZING ADAPTATIONS

We have three *Tyrannosaurus rex* fossils on display in the center of our Dinosaur Hall: one young *T. rex*, one juvenile (or teenaged) *T. rex*, and one grown-up *T. rex*, whose nickname is “Thomas.” Find our *T. rexes* in the Dinosaur Hall or look closely at the picture below.



Why did *Tyrannosaurus rex* have such short arms? If you were a *T. rex*, what would you use those short arms for? Write down your ideas below:

I think T. rex used its arms to...

We don't know too much about what *Tyrannosaurus rex* looked like when it was alive, but we can make some educated guesses. From fossil evidence, scientists think younger *T. rex* might have even had a thin coat of feathers!



Draw a picture of what you think a young *T. rex* might have looked like back in the Cretaceous Period. Make sure to include its habitat (or what environment you think *T. rex* may have lived in):

Want to see an artist's interpretation of a young *T. rex*? You can view our life-sized juvenile *T. rex* puppet, Hunter, on display in the Discovery Center!

For more, read *Thomas the T. Rex* by Michael Smith

Reading Level: Ages 6 – 8

Nine-year-old Thomas and his cousin Rita embark on a journey to Montana for a fossil hunting and study expedition with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. There, Thomas discovers a 66-million-year-old dinosaur – later nicknamed Thomas - who is one of the five most complete *T. rex* skeletons in the world.

ACTIVITY

3

DYNAMIC DINOS

Not all dinosaurs were gigantic – but some were!

What's the largest dinosaur you can find in the Dinosaur Hall? Draw it below:

Describe the largest dinosaur you can find in the Dinosaur Hall below:

For more, read *I Am A Big Dinosaur* by Francois Crozat

Reading Level: Ages 1 – 5

What if animals could talk? This charming book depicts a day in the life of a young dinosaur – as told by the animal itself!

What's the smallest dinosaur you can find in the Dinosaur Hall?
Draw it below:

Describe the smallest dinosaur you can find in the Dinosaur Hall below:

If dinosaurs could talk, what do you think this *Mamenchisaurus* would be saying?



ACTIVITY

4

DINOSAUR DICTIONARY

Let's see if we can find a dinosaur that starts with the same letter as your name!

Walk around the Dinosaur Hall, or use the list of all the dinosaurs found in this hall on page 16, and look for a dinosaur that begins with the same letter as your first, middle, or last name. Or, find your favorite dinosaur! Draw a picture of it below!

My name is

The dinosaur I found that starts with the same letter as my first, middle, or last name is

My favorite dinosaur is

After you find your dinosaur, let's try making our very own dinosaur haiku! A haiku is a Japanese form of short poetry where the first line has five syllables, the second has seven, and third and final line has five.

EXAMPLE: ***Dinosaurs***

Lived long, long ago

Some ate plants and some ate meat

Now they are fossils!

Your dinosaur haiku:

TITLE:

For more, read *Dictionary of Dinosaurs* by Dieter Braun

Reading Level: Ages 6 – 9

Dictionary of Dinosaurs is a fact-packed guide to the prehistoric world, from the Triassic to the Cretaceous – as well as from A–Z. Learn about the biggest, most fearsome, and strangest dinosaurs that ever lived, with up-to-date facts from real dino-experts.

ACTIVITY
5

DINO DISCOVERIES

Find the section of the Dinosaur Hall that shows all of the tools that our paleontologists use when out in the field excavating, or digging up, dinosaurs!

Hint: You might have to climb some stairs to find it...



When a fossil is found, excavators use both hand tools and power tools to carefully remove the surrounding rock. Fossils are then wrapped in a “jacket” made of toilet paper, gauze, and plaster for safe transport to the Museum.

What’s going on in this picture? Circle some of the tools you see being used by our paleontologists:



Our more recent fieldwork has explored the Late Jurassic Morrison Formation in Utah, primarily at a location known as the Gnatalie Quarry. Many important fossil discoveries have come out of the Gnatalie Quarry, including some dinosaurs that haven't ever been found before!

Make a poster advertising a new dinosaur on display at the Natural History Museum below:

For more, read *How The Dinosaur Got to the Museum* by Jessie Hartland

Reading Level: Ages 6 – 9

Learn about the fascinating 145-million-year journey of a dinosaur: a *Diplodocus longus*, from its discovery in 1923 in Utah to its arrival in the hallowed halls of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

ACTIVITY

6

LIST OF DINOSAURS FOUND IN THE DINOSAUR HALL

Check off each dinosaur you see as you explore the exhibit hall on your own!

PLEASE NOTE: This list does not include mosasaurs or pterosaurs that you can find in this same hall – those animals were not actually dinosaurs, but marine reptiles and flying reptiles that lived at the same time as dinosaurs!

A

- Albertosaurus
- Allosaurus
- Ankylosaurus
- Apatosaurus
- Archaeopteryx
- Augustynolophus

B

- Brachiosaurus

C

- Camarasaurus
- Camptosaurus
- Carnotaurus
- Caudipteryx
- Coelophysis
- Corythosaurus

D

- Diplodocus

E

- Edmontosaurus
- Einiosaurus

F

- Fruitadens

G

- Gigantoraptor

H

- Hypacrosaurus

L

- Lambeosaurus

M

- Magnapaulia
- Mamenchisaurus
- Massospondylus
- Megalosaurus

P

- Parasaurolophus

R

- Rinchenia

S

- Spinosaurus
- Stegosaurus
- Struthiomimus
- Styracosaurus

T

- Thescelosaurus
- Triceratops
- Tyrannosaurus

V

- Velociraptor



**Written by
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**2019–2021 NHMLAC Teacher
Advisory Council**

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