



CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

Museum Scavenger Hunt

GO TO The Morrison Planetarium (1st floor)

An **ASTROPHYSICIST** is a scientist who studies the physical properties of stars, galaxies, and planets.

If you were an astrophysicist, what planet would you want to learn more about and why?

Before starting your tour of the museum visit the kiosk at the planetarium entrance to select your show times. Then watch the sun transform into a red giant five billion years in the future.

Astrophysicists are the ones who have figured out a lot of the information that you will hear in the show.



For Child: What do you find the most exciting about space?



For Parent: What is most exciting trip that you have ever taken.

GO TO The Kimball Natural History Museum (1st floor)

How has life on Earth evolved to what it is today? **Geologists** have collected thousands of rocks and artifacts to help answer this question. Walk through the African Hall to see the mounted animals and then use the Wii gaming wands to collect virtual insects just like a real scientist!



For Child: What was your favorite animal in this exhibit and why?



For Parent: Share some old family stories to understand your family's evolution.

A **GEOLOGIST** is a scientist who studies the solid and liquid matter that makes the earth.

If you were a geologist where would you want to start collecting your rocks and artifacts? Madagascar, South America, or perhaps Egypt?

GO TO The Rainforest (1st floor)

An **ECOLOGIST** is a scientist who studies the relationships of living things to their environment and with each other.

If you were an ecologist, what part of the world would you want to do research in?

Experience what it's like to walk through a rainforest. Temperatures are kept at 82-85 degrees Fahrenheit, and humidity is kept at 75%. Pretend you are an **ecologist** and try to understand how all the living things in here are connected. As you make your way up listen to frogs, peek into one of Borneo's bat caves, and count the butterflies that land on you.

? **For Child:** Each level represents a different rainforest around the world. What are they?

? **For Parent:** Share a story about the hottest and coldest place that you have ever been to.

GO TO The Living Roof (outside)

Be a **botanist** and look all around. How many different plants and flowers can you spot? Did you know that one-sixth of all electricity consumed in the U.S. goes to cooling buildings? The Academy's green rooftop keeps the building's interior an average of 10 degrees cooler than a standard roof.

? **For Child:** What are five of the plants and flowers that can be found on the roof?

? **For Parent:** Share your experiences growing any types of plants or flowers.

A **BOTANIST** is a scientist who studies all types of plants - from mosses to giant redwood trees.

If you were a botanist, what types of plants would you study?

GO TO The Steinhart Aquarium (lower level)

A **MARINE BIOLOGIST** studies the ecology and life of marine environments like oceans, lakes, and ponds.

If you were a marine biologist what types of sea creatures would you want to study and why?

Did you pass the albino alligator as you went downstairs? Was he awake or sleeping? Pretend you are a marine biologist and venture around the underwater world and watch sharks and stingrays cruise beneath your feet. Check out the set of teeth on a piranha, and see if you can find the giant sea bass and Pacific octopus.

? **For Child:** What types of sea creatures can you touch in the Discovery Tidepool?

? **For Parent:** Share some of your experiences with bodies of waters like oceans, lakes, rivers, and pools.