

Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt

Activity Summary

Students will go on an indoor scavenger hunt to find a variety of wildlife in the nature center. Your students can complete either the scavenger hunt or the questionnaire.

Objectives

- Identify a variety wildlife
- Make observations and describe features of wildlife.
- Become familiar with the study area, the nature center exhibit hall.

Materials

* List of items to find

* Field guides – you can request these in advance on birds, fish, reptiles, or waterfowl

* Pencil

Procedure

1. Introduce the activity by showing examples of things that could be found in the lobby area alone, that might be on the list. Explain to them about finding items: that it must be done themselves, and they cannot ask a staff member for help.
2. Divide the students into groups of 2 to 5.
3. Provide them with a list of the assigned items, pencils, and guides if to be used.
4. Establish the area to be investigated. For large groups of 50 or more, you may want to divide them into 3 groups, have one in the lobby aquarium room, and two in the back exhibit hall to keep the numbers small, and then assign them a set time to spend, and then switch. Make sure enough adults are on hand to adequately monitor the groups as they hunt. If you have a small group you can send them to the entire area together.
5. Determine a length of time during which they will be hunting, for their items. Remind them to keep track of what they find and where they find it by recording it in on their paper with a detailed description.
6. After the hunt is over, ask the students to come together and share what they have found with the other students

Younger Students

This can be done with younger students as well. With the help of a couple of adults, establish groups of 5-10 students and have the adults read the clues and help them look for items on the list as you go through the exhibit hall.

Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt List

Instructions: As you find an item on the list, *describe* the item and its location. YOU DO NOT NEED TO TRY TO COLLECT THE ITEM. Simply describe it and where it was located. Keep in mind ALL of these items can be found in the lobby, exhibit hall (aquarium room and large oak tree room at the back), or in the hall by the drinking fountain and restrooms. Some may be live animals, some may be taxidermy mounts, some may be replicas, and some may be on exhibit panels or the mural in the back of the exhibit hall. Then check the item off of your list and continue the hunt. Keep in mind you probably won't find all of the items, and that is okay.

- Bass
- Catfish
- Rainbow trout
- Spotted salamander
- Western diamondback rattlesnake
- Speckled kingsnake
- Hognose snake
- Fence lizard
- Collared lizard
- Box turtle
- Black bear
- White tail deer
- Spotted skunk
- Turkey
- Quail
- Mallard duck
- Dove
- Turkey vulture
- Bluebird house
- Hunter

Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt List – TEACHER VERSION

Instructions: Remind the students that they need to find an item on the list, then *describe* the item and its location. **THEY DO NOT NEED TO TRY TO COLLECT THE ITEM.** Simply describe it and where it was located. Keep in mind ALL of these items can be found in the lobby, exhibit hall (aquarium room and large oak tree room at the back), or in the hall by the drinking fountain and restrooms. Some may be live animals, some may be taxidermy mounts, some may be replicas, and some may be on exhibit panels or the mural in the back of the exhibit hall. Then have them check the item off of their list and continue the hunt. Keep in mind they may not find all of the items, and that is okay. The hardest ones are the spotted skunk, quail, mallard duck, hunter, and dove.

- Bass – aquarium, fishing pond, fishing exhibit panels
- Catfish – aquarium, fishing pond, fishing exhibit panels
- Rainbow trout – fishing pond, fishing exhibit panels
- Spotted salamander – oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel
- Western diamondback rattlesnake – oak savannah diorama, hall by restrooms, exhibit panel
- Speckled kingsnake – oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel, classroom
- Hognose snake - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel
- Fence lizard - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel, mural
- Collared lizard – Ozark mountain range, exhibit panel
- Box turtle - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel, classroom
- Black bear – lobby, oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel
- White tail deer - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel, mural
- Spotted skunk – Ozark mountain range
- Turkey - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel
- Quail - mural, exhibit panel
- Mallard duck - exhibit panel
- Dove - oak savannah diorama, exhibit panel
- Turkey vulture – Ouachita mountain range, exhibit panel
- Bluebird house - exhibit panel, larger than life replica, cased example
- Hunter – exhibit panel, mural

Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt Questionnaire

Instructions: Read each of the following questions carefully, and look for answers in the nature center.

LOBBY

1. The Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center is one of _____ nature centers built by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.
2. The Governor Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center, the first to be built, is located in _____ Arkansas.
3. The Arkansas River Valley, the geographic region that the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center focuses on, is called the "_____."
4. The theme of our nature center is _____.
5. The funding for the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center comes from the 1/8 cent sales tax, passed as amendment _____.
6. The area that is now the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center was once Fort Chaffee, and has been turned back over to the people of Ft. Smith. Prior to the land being named Fort Chaffee, it was also called _____.

AQUARIUM / MOUNTAIN RANGES ROOM

7. The _____ Mountains were formed from folds and faults.
8. The _____ Mountains are located south of the Arkansas River.
9. The _____ Mountains are located north of the Arkansas River.
10. The _____ Mountains are considered an uplifted plateau, made of three distinct regions.
11. The two most common non-native sport fish in Arkansas are the black crappie and _____.
12. _____ are also called spoonbills, due to their unusually long snout.

MAIN EXHIBIT HALL BACK ROOM

13. The _____ snake is known for its ability to "play dead."
14. Snakes have no _____, but they can sense vibrations through the ground.
15. The _____ is a native insect that has had a recent increase in populations in the Ozark National Forests, enough so to do serious damage to native oak trees.

16. The _____ or the "pack rat" is known for collecting twigs and even man-made items for its nest.
17. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission was founded in _____.
18. Arkansas' state mammal is the _____.
19. An endangered species of insect, the _____, can be found on Fort Chaffee.
20. The limit for bream in Wells Lake is _____ fish a day.
21. In order to legally fish in Arkansas, you must have a fishing license if you are more than _____ years old.
22. The proper way to measure a fish's length is from the front end of the _____ to the top of its tail.
23. _____ species of birds occur in Arkansas.
24. Bird bones are considered _____ to aide in flight.
25. Hummingbirds use _____ to help camouflage their nests.

Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt Questionnaire –TEACHER VERSION

Instructions: Have your students read each of the following questions carefully, and look for answers in the nature center. The questions are grouped according to where the answers can be found.

LOBBY

1. The Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center is one of 4 nature centers built by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.
2. The Governor Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center, the first to be built, is located in **Pine Bluff** Arkansas.
3. The Arkansas River Valley, the geographic region that the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center focuses on, is called the “**land between the mountains.**”
4. The theme of our nature center is **stewardship.**
5. The funding for the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center comes from the 1/8 cent sales tax, passed as amendment **75.**
6. The area that is now the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center was once Fort Chaffee, and has been turned back over to the people of Ft. Smith. Prior to the land being named Fort Chaffee, it was also called **Camp Chaffee.**

AQUARIUM / MOUNTAIN RANGES ROOM

7. The **Ouachita** mountains were formed from folds and faults.
8. The **Ouachita** mountains are located south of the Arkansas River.
9. The **Ozark** mountains are located north of the Arkansas River.
10. The **Ozark** mountains are considered an uplifted plateau, made of three distinct regions.
11. The two most common non-native sport fish in Arkansas are the black crappie and **striped bass.**
12. **Paddlefish** are also called spoonbills, due to their unusually long snout.

MAIN EXHIBIT HALL BACK ROOM

13. The **hognose** snake is known for its ability to “play dead.”
14. Snakes have no **ears**, but they can sense vibrations through the ground.
15. The **red oak borer beetle** is a native insect that has had a recent increase in populations in the Ozark National Forests, enough so to do serious damage to native oak trees.

16. The **eastern wood rat**, or the “pack rat” is known for collecting twigs and even man-made items for its nest.
17. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission was founded in **1915**.
18. Arkansas’ state mammal is the **white tail deer**.
19. An endangered species of insect, the **American Burying Beetle**, can be found on Fort Chaffee.
20. The limit for bream in Wells Lake is **25** fish a day.
21. In order to legally fish in Arkansas, you must have a fishing license if you are more than **16** years old.
22. The proper way to measure a fish’s length is from the front end of the **lower jaw** to the top of its tail.
23. **260** species of birds occur in Arkansas.
24. Bird bones are considered “**hollow**” or “**honeycombed**” to aide in flight.
25. Hummingbirds use **lichens** to help camouflage their nests.