Museum Explorers Activity

Welcome to the MSU Museum! As you explore the museum, be on the lookout for the answers to these questions. Don’t forget to check out all the other interesting things on display. What will you learn when you look around?

**Ground Floor**

**Hall of Evolution**

1. No dinosaur fossils have been found in Michigan, probably because Michigan did not have a good environment for fossils to form during that era. What IS a good environment for fossils to form when an organism dies?

2. The Petoskey Stone is Michigan’s state fossil. It is the fossil remains of which sea creature?

**Hall of World Cultures**

3. What type of textile (a type of cloth or woven fabric) sometimes illustrates stories of war and migration? ________________ They are made by the _____________________ people.

4. What type of mask is used to educate girls?

**Collections Connections**

5. Objects tell stories about the people who made or used them. Some baskets from South Africa include a material that could be used to tell a story. What is the material?

6. A specimen is an animal, plant, mineral, or other natural item used for study or display. Only a few of the museums 111,000 specimens are on display. Which one is your favorite?

**Michigan Artists. Passing on Tradition (Hallway Gallery)**

7. Describe a traditional art object that you enjoyed in this gallery.

**Heritage Hall**

8. People could buy some apples, play checkers, or pick up their mail here. Name this place.

9. What did people make out of the beaver pelts collected by fur traders?
Habitat Hall

13. Touch and compare the fossil leg bone with the regular cow bone. Describe the differences in how they look and how they feel.

12. One important thing that determines which plants and animals live in each biome is the amount of __________________ the biome gets each year.

Hall of Animal Diversity

14. Find an example of an animal for each of these adaptations:
   - Uses camouflage to escape predators ______________________________________
   - Has hair that actually looks like large scales covering its body __________________
   - Has a very long tongue for licking up small insects ________________________

15. Find an animal in this gallery that you have seen in nature. Describe an adaptation it has that helps it survive.
   Animal ________________________________________________________________
   Adaptation ____________________________________________________________

Evolution in Action Gallery

16. What are the four “ingredients” (processes) needed for evolution to occur?
   ____________  ____________  ____________  ____________

17. A mutation is a change in the ___________________ __________ that is passed down from one generation to the next.