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Date: November 20, 2008

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CHANGING EXHIBIT SCHEDULE FOR 2009 AT THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

PHILADELPHIA—Besides its permanent exhibits, The Academy of Natural Sciences hosts several temporary exhibits each year. Here are the main exhibits for 2009:

***Hadrosaurus foulkii*: The Dinosaur That Changed the World** **November 22, 2008 - April 19, 2009**

When it was discovered in a marl pit in Haddonfield, N.J., in 1858 *Hadrosaurus foulkii* was the most complete dinosaur skeleton ever found. Ten years later, it went on display at The Academy of Natural Sciences and was an instant sensation—most people had never heard of the word “dinosaur.” The Academy had become the first museum in the world to display a mounted dinosaur skeleton. From Nov. 22, 2008 through April 19, 2009, the Academy will once again display this plant-eating dinosaur in all its glory as the centerpiece of a special exhibit called “*Hadrosaurus foulkii*: The Dinosaur That Changed the World.” The exhibit coincides with the 150th anniversary of the dinosaur’s scientific description. Free with museum admission.

Geckos—Tails to Toepads **May 30, 2009 - September 7, 2009**

Bulging eyes, night vision, “sticky” toepads, squawking voices, and disposable body parts—sounds like a horror movie, but this describes a gecko. Geckos are among the most adaptable lizards, with more 1,000 species that have conquered habitats from balmy tropical beaches and lush rainforests to frigid mountain slopes and parched deserts. From May 30–Sept. 7, 2009, live geckos will invade The Academy of Natural Sciences in “Geckos—Tails to Toepads.” The exhibit introduces visitors to the remarkable diversity of these lizards with engaging interactive components and live geckos in lush, naturalistic habitats. Geckos range from shadowy nighttime hunters with unbelievable camouflage to neon-colored nectar eaters that scamper around in daylight. Hear them, see them, experience them up close and in person. Free with museum admission.

George Washington Carver **November 14, 2009 - February 28, 2010**

What makes a man a legend? In the case of George Washington Carver, it wasn’t just peanuts. Born into slavery, he used his substantial gifts to become a groundbreaking scientist, educator and humanitarian with a lifelong mission to bring practical knowledge to those in need. His experiments with plants introduced poor Southern sharecroppers to sustainable agriculture and laid the groundwork for today’s research on plant-based fuels, medicines, and everyday products. Through more than 100 artifacts, along with videos and hands-on activities, visitors will discover the life, science and mighty vision of this remarkable man.

For updates and more information, see www.ansp.org and www.ansp.org/media.

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The Academy is located at 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and until 5 p.m. on weekends. Admission is: \$10 for adults, \$8 for children ages 3-12, seniors, college students and military personnel, and free for children under 3. There is a \$2 fee for “Butterflies!”

Founded in 1812, The Academy of Natural Sciences is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas. Our mission is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.