



FEBRUARY ACTIVITY SHEET

Use this activity sheet to explore the museum in a whole new way!

ACTIVITY #1

Visit *Butterflies!* on Level 1 and ask the Academy staff a new question. Record what you learned here:

ACTIVITY #2

Survival of the Slowest will open on February 15. Speaking of slow, can you find the tortoise in African Hall? Which diorama is it in?

ACTIVITY #3

Visit the **Small Actions Spark Big Changes** talk-back wall near the auditorium on Level 1. Throughout February, we want to know what small actions you've taken to help loved ones learn about climate change.

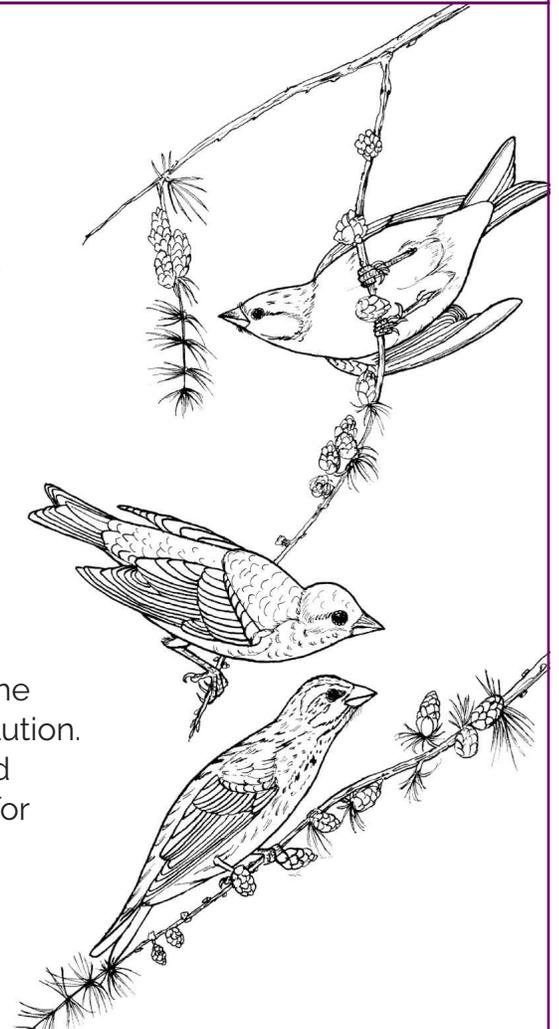
YOU CAN BE A COMMUNITY SCIENTIST

There are many ways you can help real scientists, and one cool opportunity will be February 14–17 when bird watchers around the world participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). People of all ages will count as many birds as they can.

You can spend as little as 15 minutes on one or all of the days of GBBC, record the number of birds you see, then report your number to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. If you would like to participate, ask an adult to visit gbbc.birdcount.org. You can take photos of the birds you see and even enter a photo contest!

Here in Pennsylvania, you might see finches like the ones to the right. Charles Darwin's observations of finches on the Galápagos Islands helped him develop the theory of evolution. He found that over time different species of birds adapted different beaks to best find food. Some beaks were best for crushing seeds, while others were best at catching bugs.

Flip the page for a fun way to test evolutionary adaptation.





Don't forget your stamp.

Get your monthly stamp at the admissions desks. If you have eight stamps, it's time to collect your prize in the Academy Shop!

EVOLUTION IN PLANE SIGHT

Experience the theory of evolution and how species adapt over time with this fun experiment. Recruit your friends and family to compete in a paper airplane flying contest and illustrate how natural selection works.

YOU WILL NEED

- Several sheets of a variety of paper
- Friends and family to compete
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Paper clips or other attachments (optional)

Step one: Everyone in the group will make their favorite paper airplane with paper only, but they may choose any variety of paper you've provided.

Step two: Make sure everyone starts from the same point, and have them fly their airplanes in the same direction. Measure the distance each plane flies and determine the average distance.

Step three: Determine the top three planes, and ask the people who made them to explain to everyone how they built it.

Step four: Everyone will make a new airplane based on one of the top three. Make adaptations to help your plane fly further. You can use paper clips or other materials if you think they will help.

Step five: Repeat step two and find the new average distance. Repeat steps 2–4 as many times as you like, recording average distance each time.

Step six: After you have concluded your testing, look at the average distance of the group for each test. How did it change over time? Did your adaptations make the airplanes fly further?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Survival of the Slowest

Opens February 15

Dinos After Dark

February 28, 4–8 p.m.

Paleopalooza

March 7–8



The Academy of
Natural Sciences
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Regular Hours:
Monday–Friday,
10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Weekends and Holidays,
10 a.m.–5 p.m.

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-299-1022

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