

# Natural History

Pre-visit resource



Museum  
Gallery  
Archive



# Natural History

## Key Stage 1

### About this pre-visit resource

This pre-visit resource gives you detailed information about the session you are attending with your class, as well as some extra tips about our venue, so that you can be well prepared for your visit to The Box.

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### About this workshop

This workshop takes place in the Simmons Learning Room at The Box. During the workshop, students use scientific techniques to examine (replica) skulls and identify the animals they belong to.

They then discover the difference between omnivores, herbivores and carnivores and match these to the skulls.

Finally they make a display of what they have discovered.

### Curriculum links:

- Working scientifically
- Asking and answering questions
- Observing closely
- Using scientific equipment
- Identifying and classifying



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### Detailed Workshop Outline

1. The Schools Learning Facilitator introduces the session by presenting a mystery skull . The students ask and answer questions to identify the animal it belongs to.
2. The class then splits into small groups and learn about how to handle artefacts. They use these skills to explore different skulls in their small groups.
3. The students develop a prediction (or 'hypothesis') about what the animal might be. This can be presented orally or through writing, depending on the class.
4. The students then match 'Animal Cards' with images of all the animals to the different skulls that each group has been looking at. The answers are then revealed through soft toys for each animal. The students then relate the characteristics of their animal to what they have already discovered through looking at the animal's skull.
5. The students are then introduced to the difference between herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. They discover the different types of teeth that each class of animal has.
6. The students return to their original skull, and decide if their animal is an herbivore, omnivore or carnivore before the answer is revealed.
7. To conclude, the students present their findings to their peers.

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### Key themes

Key themes of the workshop include:

- Habitats
- Working scientifically

### Key vocabulary

Key and new vocabulary covered in the workshop includes:

- Herbivore
- Omnivore
- Carnivore
- Incisor
- Canine
- Molar
- Tearing
- Crushing
- Grinding
- Artefact/object
- Curator/curatorial
- Natural History
- Collection
- Original/replica

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### Preparing for your session

Discuss the difference between herbivores, omnivores and carnivores.

Discuss the types of habitats that different animals need – you can use Plymouth or a local park as an example and think about the types of animals that live here today.

Plan a pre-visit to The Box before you come with your class, so you are familiar with the environment and spaces before your visit.

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### Visit the galleries

The galleries at The Box hold objects and archives about the topic you have explored in this session, as well as other fascinating subjects. To find out more about this topic, visit the Mammoth gallery at The Box

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### Risk assessment

To help you to write your risk assessment for your visit, we have created a Teachers Hazard Assessment which holds common risks and solutions that you might want to include. Visit this page <https://www.theboxplymouth.com/schools/school-visits> for the Hazard Identification Sheet.

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