



Colors Around Me

Hints for Teachers

MUSEUM INFORMATION:

Colors Around Me is a safari hunt that asks students to look for specimens of different colors as they move through the galleries. Here are some hints for using this hunt in the galleries.

- The museum does NOT provide copies of **Colors Around Me**. Please prepare copies for your students.
- Specimens of all colors can be found in the Earth & Planetary Sciences Gallery and the *Arthropods* exhibit. Specimens of some colors can be found in the animal halls and the Birds of the World Gallery.
- Pick one gallery to focus on or ask students to find examples of different colors in different galleries.
- When your students arrive at the museum, they will be given a brief greeting by a museum staff member. After this greeting is a good time for you to talk to your students and chaperons about the **Colors Around Me** activity.

PREPARING AN ACTIVITY:

- Make photocopies of the **Colors Around Me** activity for your students. The museum will NOT have copies available.
- **Colors Around Me** asks students to draw pictures of things they find. Provide your students with crayons or pencils for their drawings. Markers are not allowed in the galleries.
- The museum asks that students refrain from leaning on any of the glass cases while drawing. We recommend providing students with clipboards or notebooks to lean on.
- **Colors Around Me** has a brief set of directions printed at the top for chaperones to use. For more chaperone information, please see the **Colors Around Me** information for chaperones.
- The **Colors Around Me** information for chaperones lists hints for chaperones and suggestions for how to use the discussion questions. We recommend photocopying this sheet for chaperones or discussing the tips with them.
- If it is appropriate for your group, you may want to ask students or chaperones to copy the specimen names near each drawing.

IN THE CLASSROOM:

Extend the fun! Talk about colors and animals back in the classroom.

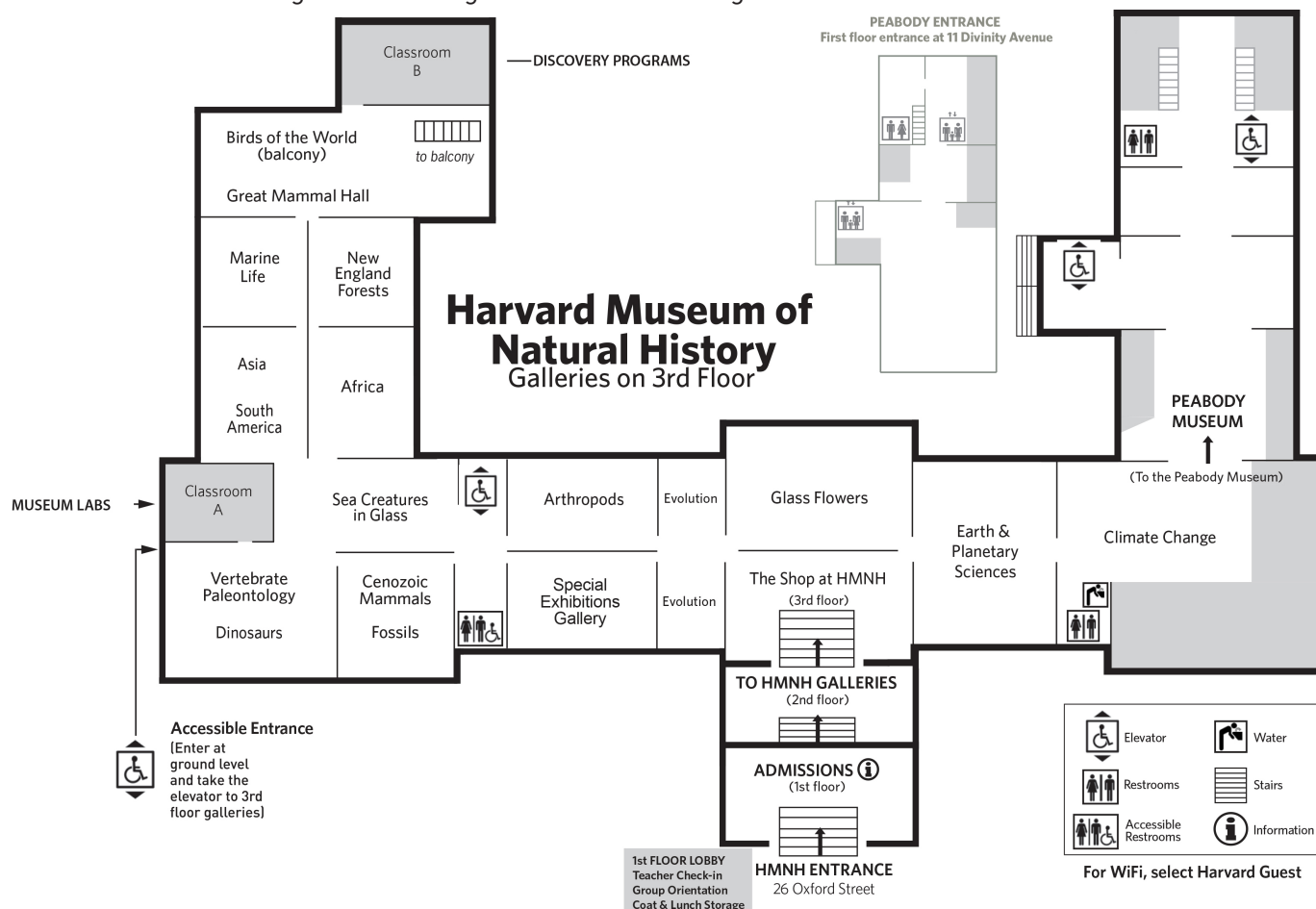
- We use lots of words to describe colors, for example bright, light, dark, or pale. Practice using these deeper descriptions.
- Make a chart of all the things your students have found. List all the red things, all the blue things, etc.
- Provide your students with costumes of different colors. Challenge them to find costumes that would camouflage them in different settings such as in the snow, in the desert, or in the forest.
- Talk about camouflage. How do different colors help animals hide?
- Make a camouflage collage: Cut out a picture of an animal from a nature magazine and glue it to a piece of paper. Ask students to use scrapes of paper to collage a place where the animal can hide.



Colors Around Me

Information for Chaperones

- This activity invites your students to find specimens in the museum that are different colors and draw them.
- Your students will be looking for specimens that are **RED, PURPLE, GREEN, and BLUE**.
- Your students can find these specimens in any order. Ask your group to look for these colors as you explore the museum. When you find something, stop to draw it.
- Specimens of all colors can be found in the *Earth & Planetary Sciences* Gallery and the *Arthropods* exhibits. Things of some colors can be found in the animal halls and the bird balcony.
- Pick one gallery to focus on, or ask students to find examples of different colors in different galleries.
- As your students draw, discuss their findings with them by asking questions such as:
 - Which thing is your favorite?
 - What other colors do you see? Do some things have more than one color?
 - Which things are animals? Which things are not animals?
 - Why do you think this animal or mineral is this color?
- You may want to copy the specimen names near your students' drawings.
- Remember: The glass cases in the museum are fragile. Please remind your students to lean on the floor or their leg while drawing. Do NOT lean on the glass cases.





Colors Around Me

Activity for students

- This activity can be done in any one exhibit or between many exhibits.
- Students look for specimens that are **RED**, **PURPLE**, **GREEN** and **BLUE** and draw them.
- Your group can pick one thing to draw for each color, or each student can pick their own.
- Use the questions at the end of the sheet to help your students discuss what they find.

1. Draw something **RED**.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a red specimen.

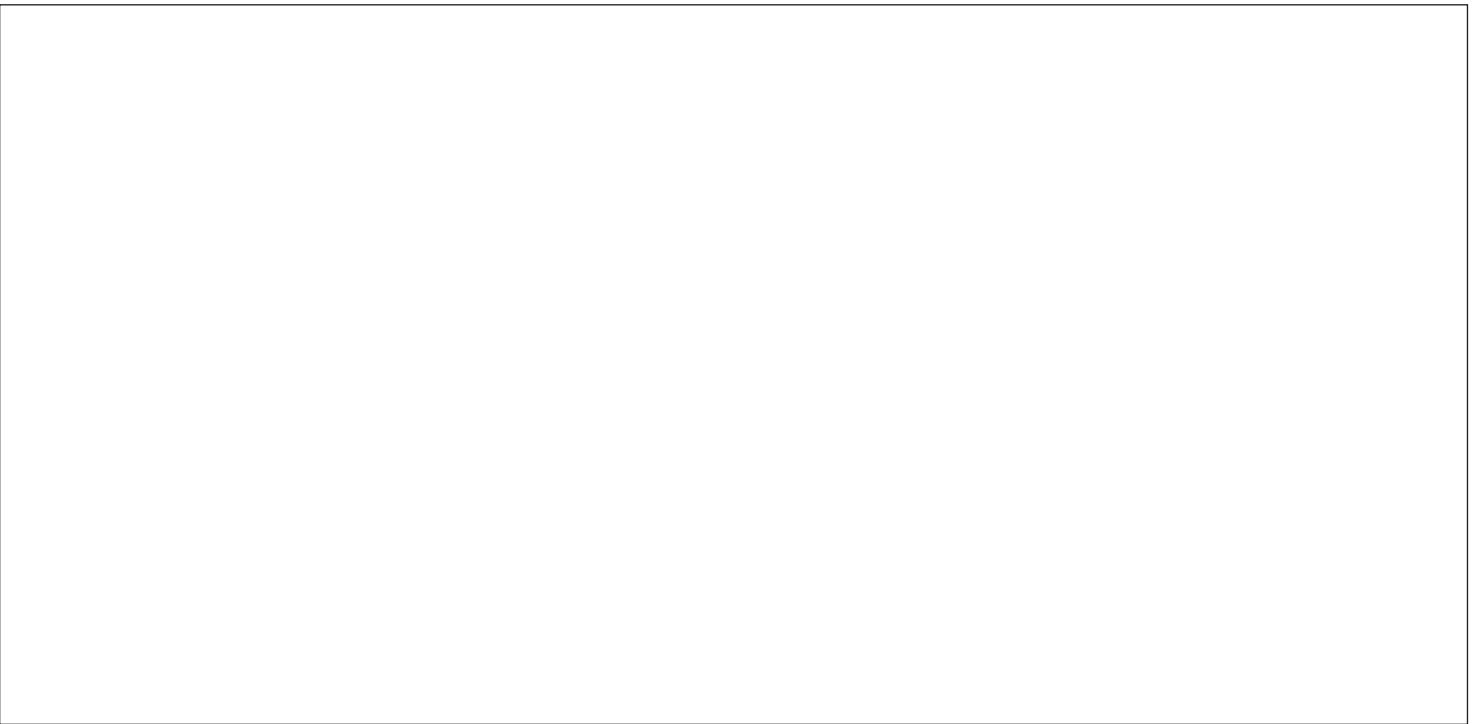
2. Draw something **PURPLE**.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a purple specimen.

3. Draw something **GREEN**.



4. Draw something **BLUE**.



QUESTIONS FOR KIDS:

- Which thing is your favorite?
- What other colors do you see? Do some things have more than one color?
- Which things are animals? Which things are not animals?
- Why do you think this animal or mineral is this color?