



Texas Memorial Museum

Bones, Teeth, Horns, and Antlers

Grades K-6

Mammals come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Why is the skull so important? What is the function of horns and antlers? Meet a museum scientist and explore the answers to these questions, and more. Compare the differences between carnivores and herbivores, and learn about several Texas mammals. Students will see and handle real mammal skulls and their parts.

Learning objectives

Observing and Identifying

Students will be able to use senses as tools of observation; observe the structure of different mammal parts, such as bones, teeth, horns, and antlers; identify the characteristics and functions of mammal skulls that allow mammals to survive and their needs to be met; identify how structure complements function in mammal parts; identify a few mammal species, especially those of Texas.

Communicating

Students will be able to ask questions about mammals and their environments; describe the basic characteristics of the skulls and teeth of mammals; construct reasonable explanations and draw conclusions; communicate explanations about observations.

Comparing and classifying

Students will be able to compare mammals; classify mammals by characteristics; compare and give examples of the ways mammals depend on each other (e.g. predators and prey) and on their environments; compare adaptive characteristics of various species of mammals that improve their ability to survive in an ecosystem; differentiate between structure and function of mammal characteristics.

Predicting

Students will be asked to predict some adaptive characteristics required for survival by mammals.

Analyzing

Students will be able to analyze how adaptive characteristics help mammals to survive; and analyze and describe adaptive characteristics that result in an animal's unique niche in an ecosystem.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) correlations

Kindergarten

K.2A; K.4A, B; K.5A, B; K.6A, D; K.8A; K.9A, B.

First Grade

1.2A, D, E; 1.4A, C; 1.5A, 1.6A, B; 1.8A, B; 1.9A, B.

Second Grade

2.2A, E; 2.4, B; 2.5A; 2.6A, D; 2.8A; 2.9A, B.

Third Grade

3.2B, C, D; 3.8B, C; 3.9A, B; 3.10B.

Fourth Grade

4.2B, C, D; 4.6C; 4.8A, B; 4.10A.

Fifth Grade

5.2B, C, D; 5.6C; 5.9A, B, C; 5.11A.

Sixth Grade

6.2B, C, D; 6.10A, C; 6.12A, C.

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