



EXPLORE...

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OUR MICHIGAN LANDSCAPE AT THE MSU MUSEUM

SELF-GUIDED TOUR



estimated time = less than 1 hour

Start on Ground Floor

Hall of Evolution



1

410 million years ago, what covered the land where Michigan is today?



FACTOID:

Fossil brachiopods can still be found in northern Michigan gravel pits.

True or false: Dinosaur fossils have been found in Michigan.

2

Find the mammoth and one other large mammal that lived in Michigan during the Ice Age.

3

Check out the Hmong traditions in Michigan

What can you learn about the Little Traverse Bay Odawa?

4

Name some unique things about your culture(s).

Hall of World Cultures

MICHIGAN'S LANDSCAPE HAS BEEN HOME TO PEOPLE OF MANY CULTURES.

5

Notice the marble walls as you go up the stairs...

Can you find a brachiopod?

Hint: it looks like a comma

GO TO FLOOR 1 (OPEN)

ANSWERS: 1. Shallow sea 2. False

FLOOR 1

FIND THE STONE POINTS

6

Stone points were made by the first people to come into Michigan about 10,000 years ago.

What were these points used for?

Collection Connections

How do you think the first people affected the environment?



FACTOID: Tool making skills were passed from generation to generation.

7

Passing on Traditions

What are some of the traditions passed on in your family and community?

Heritage Hall

FUR TRADER'S CABIN

8

Fur Trader's Cabin shows why people hunted some animals in Michigan.

How do you think the environment changed during and after the fur trade era?

WHITE PINES AND PEAVIES

9

Michigan lumbering began to bloom in the mid-1800s.

What happened to the land after the trees were cut?



FACTOID: Our state tree is the White Pine (*Pinus strobus*).

Sing a lumberjack song.



GO UP THE STAIRS

FLOOR 2



FACTOID: 75% of original Michigan wetlands has been destroyed.

WETLAND DIORAMA

14

Find these animals without looking at the guide: red-winged blackbird, Blanding's turtle and the white-tailed deer.

10

What habitat is common in Michigan?

Habitat Hall

Compare the other habitats to Michigan. What is the same? What is different?

Look closely at the bark of these trees and find some next time you are outside.

THE WHITE-TAILED DEER CHALLENGE

13

What happened to the deer population in 1900 and why?

Hall of Animal Diversity

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR BACKYARD?

11

See the red-winged blackbird and snakes that might be living near you.

How many mammals can you find in the Michigan habitat?

FACTOID: The painted turtle is the State Reptile.



TOUCHSCREEN

12

Find the State bird, the American Robin, and listen to it. Have you heard this song in your environment?