

NAME _____

DATE _____

Use your own powers of observation and what you have learned about biology to complete this activity. You may find information from the specimen itself, from a label, or from a mural or picture. Volunteers, in Museum vests, are also good resources for information.

Choose an organism exhibited in the Museum and complete the following information.

Name of organism:

Location in Museum:

Sketch the organism below.



1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

www.NMNaturalhistory.org

The Museum is a division of the State of New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs.
The Museum is accessible to all visitors.

Physical description:

Description of the environment in which it lived:

Adaptations to the environment:

How was this organism especially suited for the environment in which it lived? How did it move? Eat? Breathe? List at least two adaptations and explain how they are adaptive.

Parallel to a similar organism (in appearance and/or behavior) that lives today:

If you wanted to learn more about this ancient organism, what modern-day organism would you choose to study? Why?

By studying the behavior and structure of modern organisms, paleontologists have developed possible explanations for similar structures and behaviors in ancient organisms. Be sure to visit the Dinosaur Detective interactive in the Cretaceous Hall (click on the Case Files) to see how paleontologists have used modern animals to develop explanations about extinct dinosaurs.