## SECOND GRADERS EXPLORE THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

A few weeks ago, our second graders went on an exciting field trip to the Los Angeles Natural History Museum, and it was an experience they'll never forget! From the moment they entered the museum, the students were in awe of the towering dinosaur fossils that greeted them. The immense size of the T. rex and the long neck of the Brachiosaurus captured their imaginations, sparking curiosity about these ancient creatures. They eagerly read the informative plaques and listened attentively to the guides, learning about the history of dinosaurs and the Earth itself.

In addition to the dinosaurs, the students explored other fascinating exhibits, such as the ones featuring animals like lions, bears, and even a giant polar bear. They marveled at the realistic dioramas showcasing these animals in their natural habitats. The students learned about the unique adaptations that help these animals survive in their environments. For example, they discovered how polar bears' thick fur and layer of fat help them stay warm in the freezing Arctic, and how lions' sharp claws and powerful muscles make them skilled hunters on the African savannah. One of the highlights of the trip was the museum's interactive displays, where the students could engage with hands-on activities. Some tried on animal costumes, while others explored the exhibits using touchscreens to learn more about different species. The children also enjoyed participating in scavenger hunts, searching for specific animals and objects throughout the museum.



Many students said it was their favorite field trip ever. They couldn't stop talking about the amazing things they saw, from the vibrant minerals in the Gem and Mineral Hall to the lifesized models of prehistoric creatures. The trip not only enhanced their understanding of science but also sparked their love of learning. Their teachers noticed how engaged and excited the students were, sharing their new knowledge with their classmates when they returned to school.



It was a day filled with discovery, adventure, and unforgettable memories outside the classroom. The students gained a deeper appreciation for the natural world and all of the amazing creatures that have roamed the Earth, both past and present. As they left the museum, many were already asking, "When can we go again?"





