

Social Narrative

My Visit to the Yale Peabody Museum



**YALE
PEABODY
MUSEUM**

My Visit to the Yale Peabody Museum

Planning my visit

Do I need a ticket to visit? No! The Peabody is open to all, with no time or date restrictions for individual visitors. We encourage you to come visit whenever you like!

Visiting the museum can be a fun way to spend the day, but it can also be overwhelming if you don't know what to expect.

The Yale Peabody Museum is a three-story accessible building. On the first floor, you will explore fossil exhibits. On the second floor, you will discover exhibits about people and their history on the planet. On the third floor, you will learn about minerals, animals, natural places where plants and animals live, and Oceania.

How will you get to the museum?

You could drive or take the bus. The parking lot is at the intersection of Humphrey Street and Whitney Avenue. The parking lot has signs for the Yale Peabody Museum. It is on the left. Possible bus routes are the 224, 228, 255, 261, 278, and FLIXBUS 2616.



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How will you find the museum entrance?

After parking, follow the dinosaur footprints along Whitney Avenue to the main entrance. The path leads up a ramp to the main entrance. We are on an adventure!



Following this path, you will see your first dinosaur. Wow, this dinosaur is huge. Don't worry, it won't bite. Torosaurus only eats plants.



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Go past our friendly Torosaurus to the main entrance. You can take the ramp or stairs to the main entrance. The museum is accessible so all are welcome.



Getting into the museum

The museum is free to everyone. Admissions is right there once you go through the main entrance. You can get maps and ask questions here.

Sometimes the entrance and the museum can get crowded and noisy. If sound bothers you, you could bring your headphones or a fidget if that helps you. If you forget your own fidgets and headphones, you can borrow a backpack with fidgets and headphones when you arrive at the museum.



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Don't forget to look up. Our big and small Pterosaurs are saying hello from above. Pterosaur means "winged lizard." Have you ever seen a reptile that can fly? Pretty cool!



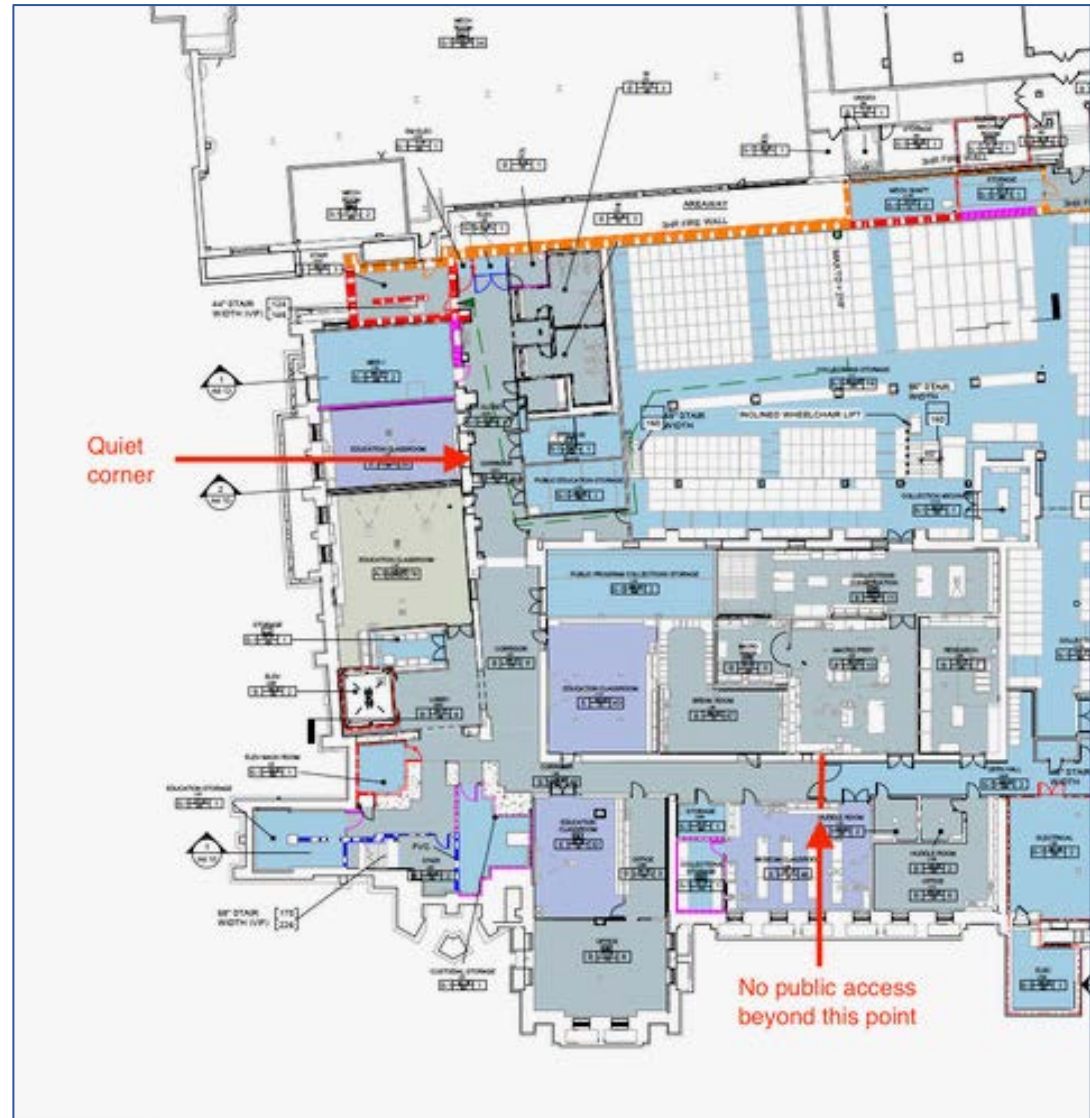
Museum guidelines to keep you safe

Explore all there is to see in a safe and fun way. While I am in the museum, I will be sure to follow these rules to keep our dinosaur friends and all the exhibits safe:

- I will look instead of touching the objects, walls, or glass display cases so they stay safe and clean.
- I will keep my hands down and my body safe. My feet will stay on the ground. If I want to rest I will sit. If I want to climb I will wait until I am outside.
- I will stay with my group.
- I will walk slowly and speak in a quiet voice.
- There are specific things that are part of the display that I can touch. Those have labels or signs that say they are ok to touch.

Where can you take a break?

There are armchairs outside of galleries in different parts of the museum, including in the Central Gallery.



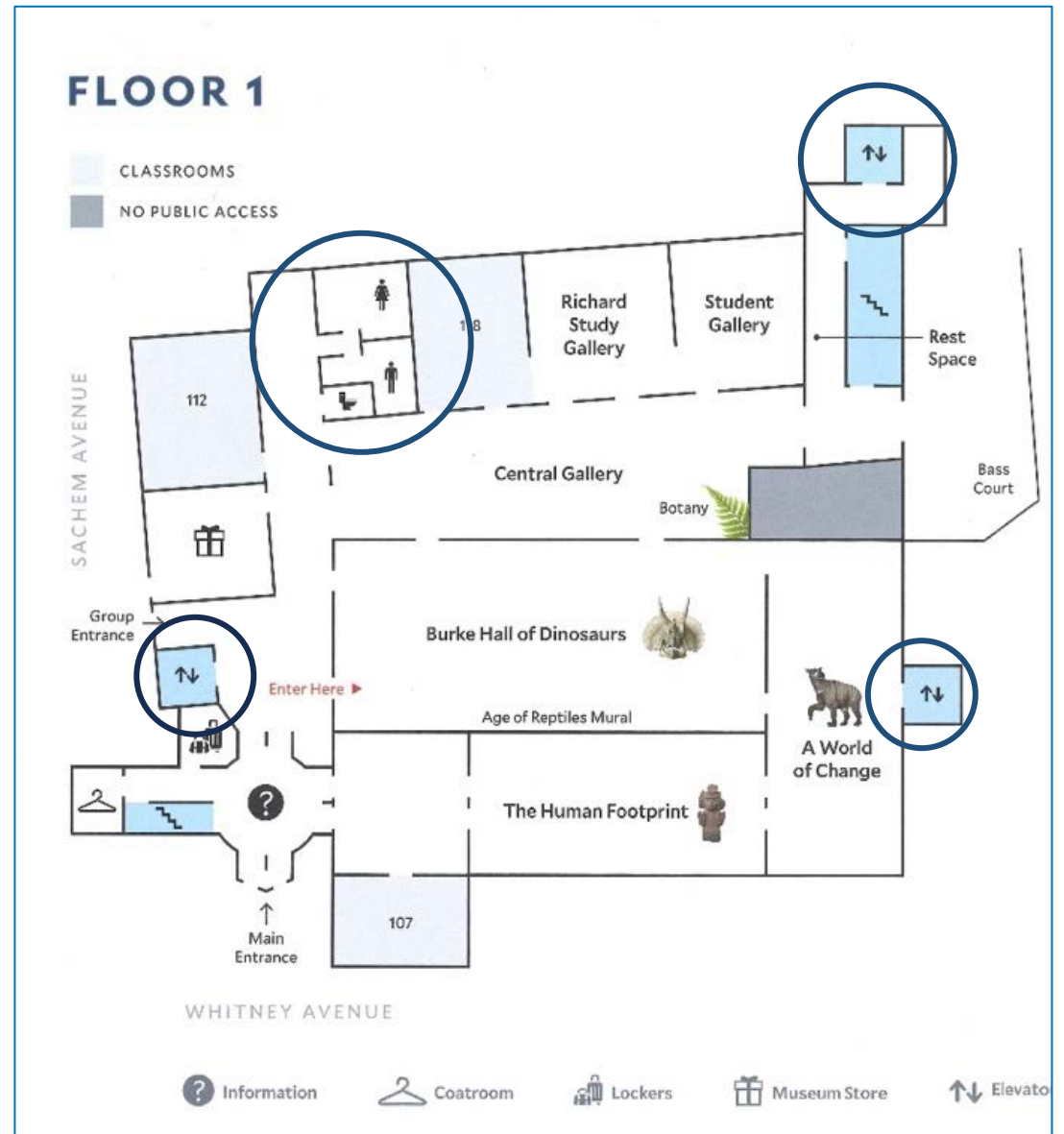
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If you feel tired or need a break from the upstairs spaces, you can visit this rest space in the basement.



Exploring the first floor of the museum

On this map you can see where the toilets are located. We also have elevators at both the north and south ends of the building. There is a quiet area for children at the north end in the Torosaurus Rest Space.



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On the first floor, you will see our largest exhibits. In these galleries there are a lot of interesting exhibits about fossils and the animals that have lived on Earth. Are you wondering what a fossil is? Fossils are any remains, impression, or traces of any once-living thing from a past age that are preserved in stone.

The biggest gallery is called Burke Hall. It has two parts. The first part is Burke Hall of Dinosaurs: Ancient Oceans. This area has a blue wall.



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Around the corner it opens into a huge gallery where you will find dinosaur fossils, a big mural, computer screens, things that can be touched, and a long bench facing the mural! Stegosaurus and Brontosaurus.

Meet Stegosaurus and Brontosaurus! On the rail in front of Stegosaurus is a tail spike that can be touched.

The Brontosaurus is so big you can walk under its tail!



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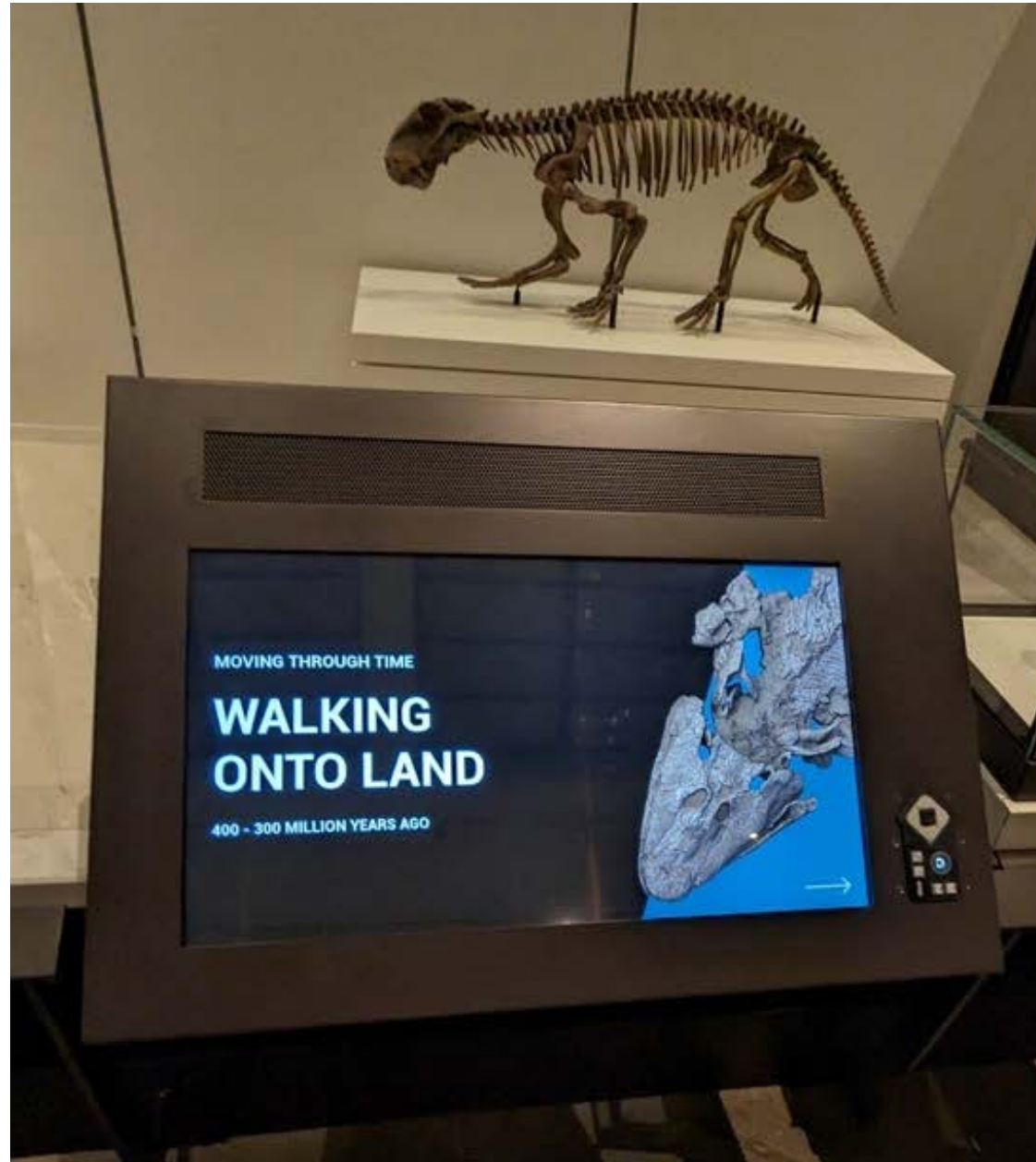
This enormous wall painting is called a mural, and was painted on the wall of the museum over 75 years ago!

There is also a tactile version of this cool painting that you can touch.



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Here is one of the interactive screens where you can learn more. You will see these in many of the exhibits.



In addition to the tactile mural and a Stegasaurus tail spike, there are other things you can touch! This picture shows 2 casts. A cast is a copy of a fossil. The casts are painted to look like metal, which is a clue that you can touch them!

On the left is a tactile impression of the skin of the Kritosaurus dinosaur, on the right is a Stegeceras skull.



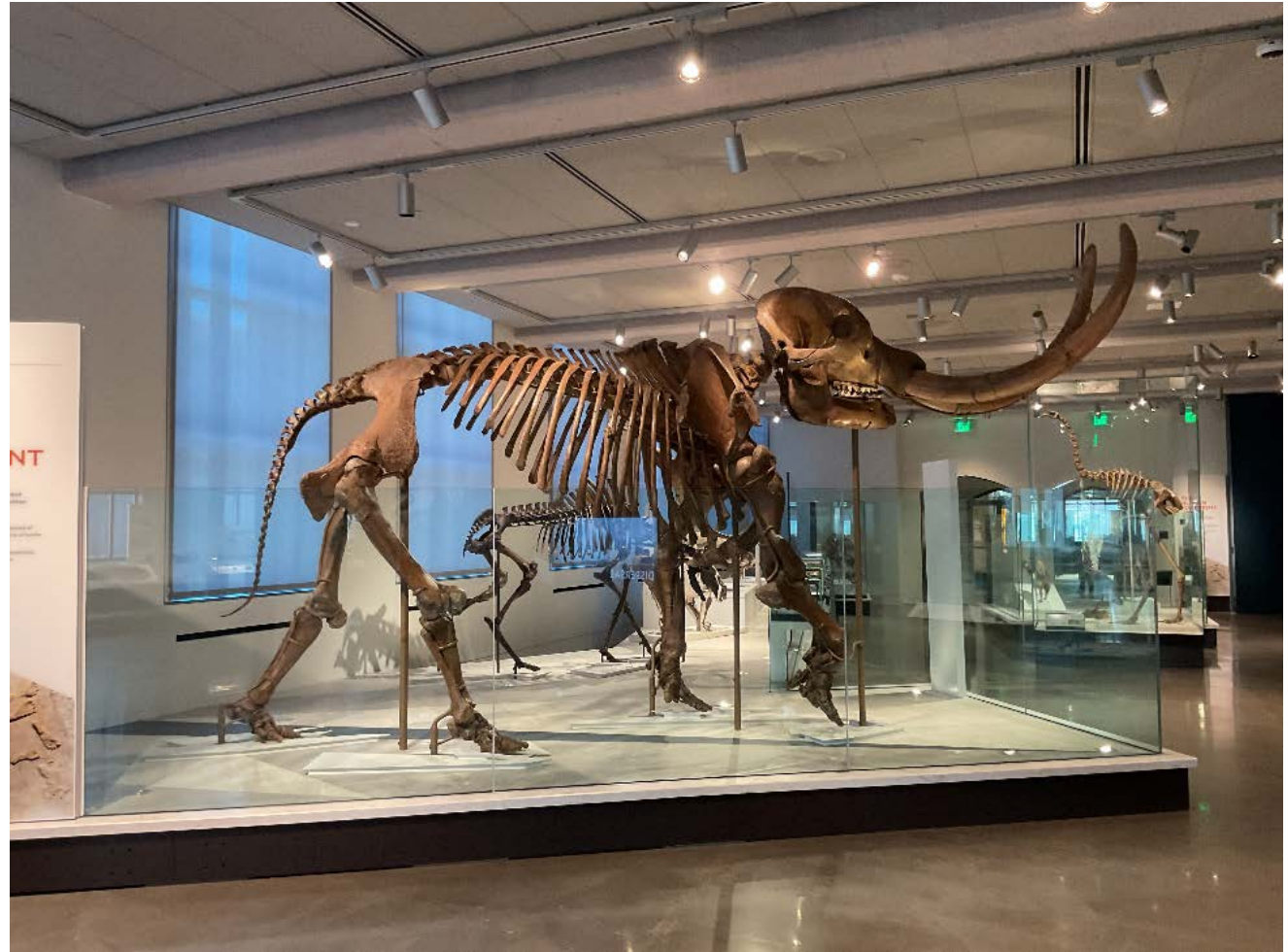
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The next gallery on the first floor is the World of Change Exhibit. If you enter through the door farthest away from the mural, you will see the big Gastornis! He was strong enough to eat coconuts right through the shell!



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In this gallery you will find amazing fossils like the great Mastodon, a large mammal that looked like a furry elephant.



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Another mural! The painting in this gallery, the Age of Mammals, shows the history of animal life on land for the last 65 million years.

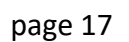


There is also a tactile panel for this mural. Enjoy!

You can also look for the interactive computer screens and other touchable items painted to look like metal.

The last fossil gallery on this floor is called “The Human Footprint”.

There are many things to be touched in this display, but not the skull fossils attached to the wall. If you aren't sure what you can touch, please ask!



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At the far end of the Human Footprint gallery there is a door to a small special exhibit gallery. The displays in this gallery change. Through this room you will be back at the main entrance. If you go away from the lobby you will pass the door to the big Dinosaur gallery and then you will be in the Central Gallery. This is a big space with tables and chairs where you can rest, but make sure you look up!



This mosasaur is chasing
the sea turtle!
Swim faster turtle!



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Exploring the second floor of the museum

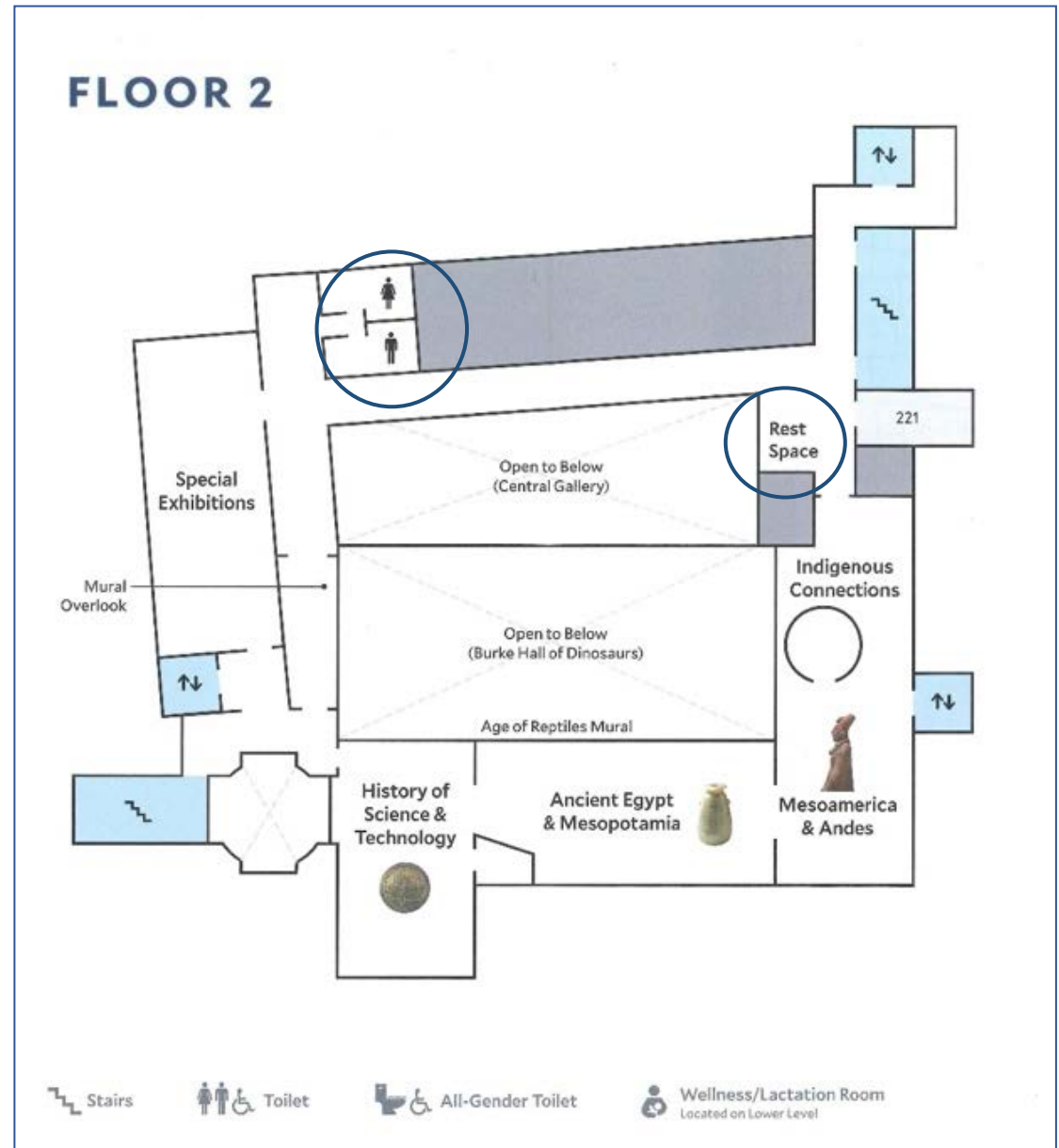
You can take the elevator or stairs to the 2nd floor. You might want to look down at the Burke Hall of Dinosaurs from above. It is an amazing sight.



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On the second floor, you will find more exhibit spaces, a quiet space just for adults who need a rest, and accessible toilet rooms.

Near the elevator and stairs is the entrance to the History of Science and Technology exhibit.



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In the History of Science and Technology exhibit you will find many tools that have been used by scientists over the last few hundred years, including some amazing telescopes.



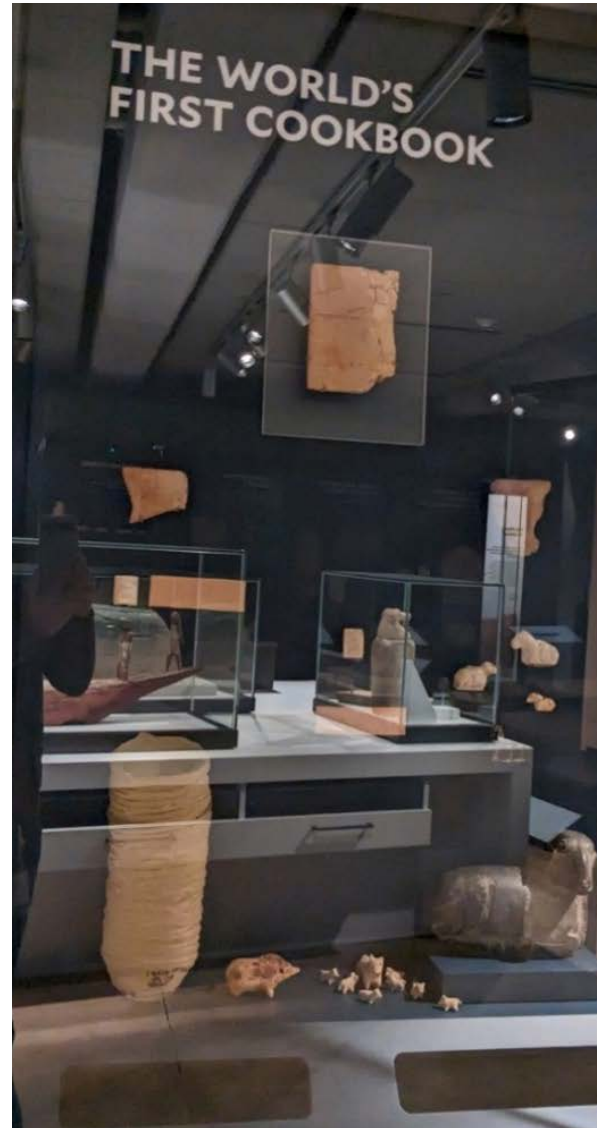
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The next gallery is about Egypt and Mesopotamia. As you enter you will see the lid of a Sarcophagus - don't worry! There is nothing inside! You may notice a lot of lights and reflections on the floor.



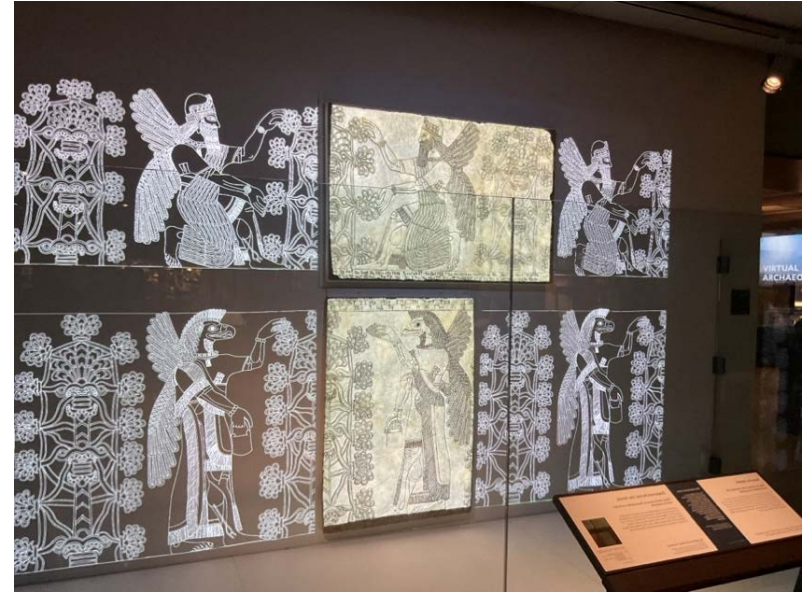
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You'll also find many interesting very old things, like this cookbook. It is a clay tablet, and almost 4000 years old!



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At the back of the gallery, you will see a series of pictures projected on the wall. This shows how Assyrian reliefs – pictures carved into stone – were colorfully painted when they were originally made.



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The next gallery teaches us about Mesoamerican and Andean Civilizations. Mesoamerica extended from Mexico to Central America and was home to Ancient peoples who built great civilizations. Their legacy continues today with their descendants.

You will be greeted by a giant stone head which is a model made here at the museum. It is copied from a stone sculpture.

You can explore cases that have objects and information about things like writing and musical instruments, and find an interactive screen where you can learn more.



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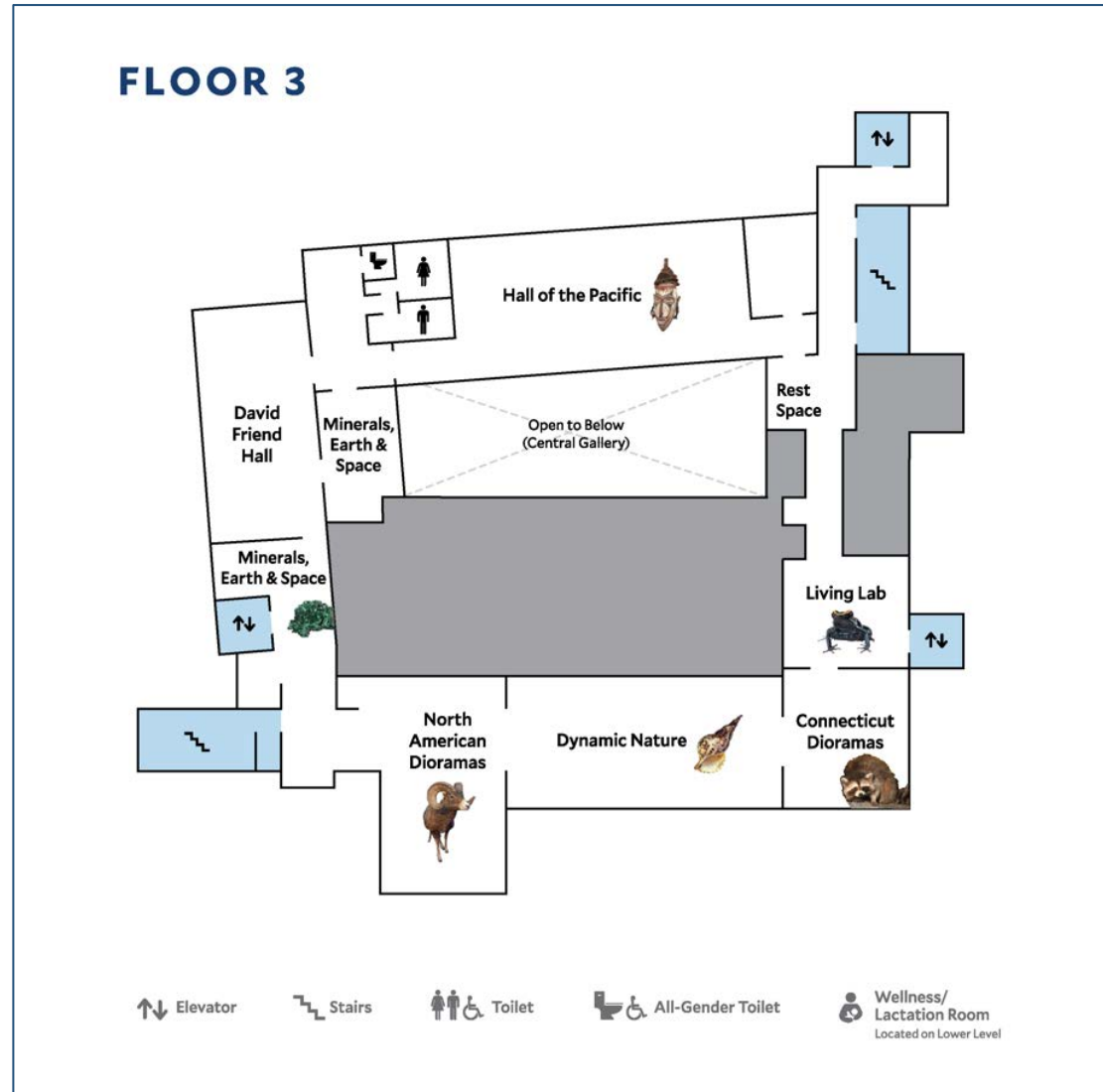
Beyond the Mesoamerican gallery you will go through Indigenous Connections, a gallery focused on North American people from the past and the present. In this space you might see things that are still being created – like drawers with “Coming Soon” signs.

To leave this gallery you will go along a curved wall, which may even have a painting on it! Follow this and you will come to a small quiet rest space. You can go straight ahead to the elevator, or along a hallway to your left, where you can look down to the Central Gallery on the first floor. There are also maps, restrooms and a Special exhibition gallery nearby... and the overlook to the Burke Hall of Dinosaurs – back where you started!



Exploring the third floor of the museum

Do you want to go to the third floor?
You can take the stairs or the elevator.



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Right outside the elevator is the start of the Minerals, Earth & Space collection, which includes rocks from space, jewels and minerals. These rooms are darker than the other galleries, but there are lights in the display cases.



There are many kinds of rocks and minerals. Some are plain, others are sparkly. This one is a mineral called Stibnite – a visitor favorite! Do you like it? Do you have a different favorite?



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Outside the Mineral galleries there are restrooms and the entrance to the Hall of the Pacific. This is one long gallery with many interesting objects representing some of the many cultures and ecosystems around the Pacific Ocean. It is darker than some spaces in the museum because some of the materials are fragile, and can be hurt by too much light.



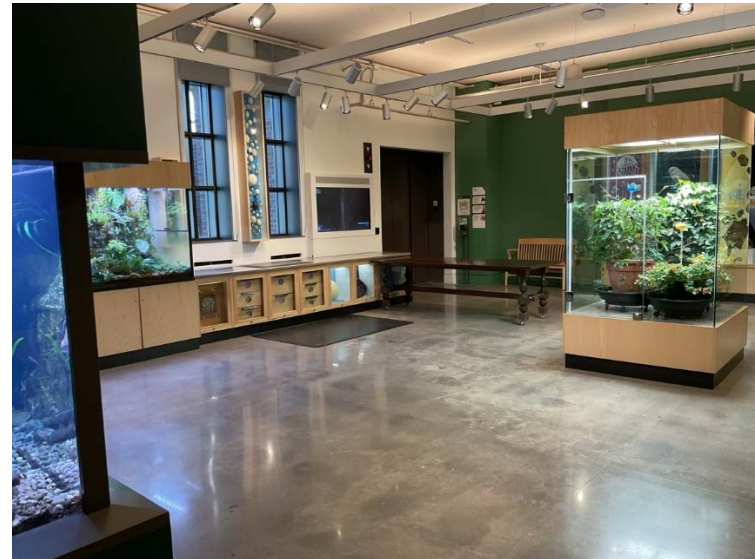
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Outside the Hall of the Pacific, and before you come to the Living Lab, you'll find another little rest space.



The Living Lab is the next gallery and it is just what it says! There are live plants and animals, activities you can try, and things to touch and explore.

There are also volunteers in this room to help you out, show you things and answer questions.



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The Connecticut Dioramas are next. A diorama is a model of a place and the plants and animals that live there. Feel free to sit down and pretend you are in the landscape!



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From the Connecticut Dioramas you can go into the Dynamic Nature exhibit. This gallery teaches us about how the environment and life are interconnected.

There are big displays you can walk around, and tall cases with drawers you can pull out to learn more.



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In the drawer shown here there are robots inspired by turtles!



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The last gallery on the 3rd floor is North American Dioramas. These show animals in their habitat from the very cold Arctic to the very warm Tropics!

Where would you like to visit?

When you leave this gallery you will be near the stairs and elevator.



There is so much to do and see in this Museum! We hope you have enjoyed your time.