What does the word *nature* mean to you?

Before entering the exhibit, use the space below to map out your personal experience with nature. Draw, diagram, write, journal, connect ideas (or not), use all the space (or not). There are no correct answers or methods.
Yard and Garden – Wildlife Friendly Garden

Animals, and humans, need four basic resources: water, food, cover, and a place to raise their young. Explore the Wildlife Friendly Garden section to learn about resources to attract wildlife to a backyard or open space. Use the backyard depiction below to add resources to your own backyard. What animals would you want to attract?

Backyard spaces not available? You can add many of the same resources to balconies or school yards!

Urban Forest

Urban forests provide many of the basic resources to animals living within cities. These trees also provide some much-needed shade and relief from the heat. Pioneers to Utah planted many trees upon arrival to help remind them of home and provide shelter and food for their communities.

Find a tree on the Discovery Cube Tree ID station. Spend some time with this tree. What resources does this tree provide to communities? What makes it special? What can you learn from this tree? Using words and drawings, record some observations to the right. Make sure to thank your tree before moving on to the next activity.
Parks and Open Spaces
As our global communities become increasingly diverse so do our animal and plant populations. Explore the New Nature section. All of these plants and animals are common in Utah today but were introduced species, species that were not naturally occurring. Many cities throughout Utah are also novel today; these communities flourish due to diversity. Choose one animal or plant to focus on. What adaptations does this organism have that helps it thrive in the new ecosystem?

What skills or adaptations help you flourish in your community?

Rivers and Streams
Rivers and streams are a biodiversity hotspot and have been integral to our communities throughout history. Usage and understandings of the bodies of water have changed over time and differ between cultures. Relationships with water have been important in personal histories, pop culture, and history. What do you think—should we chase waterfalls or stick to the rivers and streams that we are used to?

Use the space below to sketch out a body of water that you have a personal connection to. What elements are near this space? Who do you visit with?
River corridors also provide pathways or highways to migrating animals. These spaces provide resources for the animals as they make their way to a new home.

Has your family ever moved? What was your journey like? What are the important parts of your home?

Nature is composed of many things: plants, animals, humans, invertebrates, algae, bacteria, weather, geology, and more.

Continue exploring your relationship with the nature all around you!
Nature All Around Us

Exhibition Map

Nature All Around Us
Exhibition Map

Activity Guide 6th-8th
Sense of Place

Yards and Gardens
Urban Forest
Parks and Open Spaces
Wildland Urban Interface

Rivers and Streams
Main Street
Photo Contest

1. Rebecca Ray’s Backyard
2. Pollinator Costumes
3. Crawl Through Tunnel
4. Timber Activity
5. Art Installation/Poetry
6. Novel Ecosystems
7. Scat Discovery Cubes
8. Water Run-off Activity
9. Rats
10. Photography Exhibit

Digital Interactive
Physical Interactive
Live Animal