

# Utah's Unique Habitats

## What to know before you go

Before your students visit the Museum, be sure to prepare them with the proper vocabulary and understandings necessary to complete this activity.

### ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDING:

All the components of an ecosystem, both living and non-living, are interconnected.

### ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- > What is an adaptation?
  - > What does it mean to adapt?
- > How do the components of an ecosystem depend on each other?
- > What is a classification system?
- > How do classification systems help us better understand the relationships between living and non-living things?

### VOCABULARY TO KNOW:

Observation, Inference, Record, Adaptation, Classification, Ecosystem, Food Web, Food Chain, Predator, Prey, Environment, Mutualism, Parasitism, Competition, Producer, Consumer, Organism



**NATURAL HISTORY**  
MUSEUM OF UTAH

Rio Tinto Center | The University of Utah



# Utah's Unique Habitats

7th & 8th Grade Science

**Choose 1 of the biome/habitat dioramas in the Life Gallery (Level 4) for your research.**

Record observations about your habitat below.

<b>Biome/Habitat Name:</b>	
<b>Living Things:</b>	<b>Non-living Things:</b>
<b>Climate:</b>	<b>Other Important Observations:</b>

Using your observations on the first page, describe or diagram how the organisms in this biome/habitat depend on each other. Be sure to give specific examples!

> *For example, a rabbit (prey) provides food for a coyote (predator).*

Choose 3 organisms in your biome/habitat. What ***adaptations*** do you observe that these organisms have that make them successful at living in their biome/habitat?





***Make an inference:*** what would happen if one of the organisms in your biome/habitat went ***extinct***? How do you think this would impact other life in your biome/habitat? **Explain your thinking.**

Scientists know Earth's climate is getting warmer, storms are getting stronger, and snow and ice are melting faster. What effect do you think global climate change will have on your habitat/biome? **Explain your thinking.**

