

FIRST ANIMALS

Special exhibition

12 July 2019 – 24 February 2020

Open 10am – 5pm everyday

Free admission

Animal life first evolved in the oceans over half a billion years ago. This exhibition brings together exceptional fossils from across the globe to tell the remarkable story of the origin of animals.



#FirstAnimals

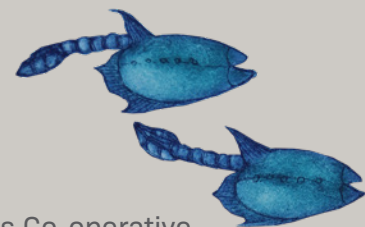


Supported by the EPA Cephalosporin Fund



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

FIRST IMPRESSIONS



An artwork trail created by Oxford Printmakers Co-operative in collaboration with Museum researchers and inspired by the First Animals exhibition. On show for the duration of the exhibition.

Opening hours

Open daily from 10am-5pm
Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
and Boxing Day
Admission is free

Group and school visits

Schools and organised groups please pre-book on 01865 282451 or email education@oum.ox.ac.uk

Museum Café

Enjoy snacks and drinks throughout the day, overlooking the dinosaurs.

Museum Shop

The shop offers a wide range of gifts including fossils, minerals, publications, toys, jewellery and Museum products.
www.bit.ly/mnhshop

Library and Archives

Our Library and Archives are open to all. For appointments email library@oum.ox.ac.uk

Learning at the Museum

The Museum offers taught sessions for primary and secondary Key Stages, regular Family Friendly activities, and a programme of adult events.
www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk/learn

Volunteering

To find out about volunteering at the Museum see:
www.glam.ox.ac.uk/volunteering

Community Outreach

For information on workshops for adult community groups see:
www.glam.ox.ac.uk/community-outreach

Access

The Museum provides wheelchair access to all floors and some free disabled parking. There is no other public parking available on site.

Hire the Museum

The Museum and its 300-seat Lecture Theatre are available for private hire functions, including weddings, dinners and conferences: venue@oum.ox.ac.uk

Location

The Museum is about 10 minutes' walk north of Oxford city centre and about 15 minutes' walk from Oxford rail station.

Free public wi-fi

To access our free public wi-fi log on to the Museums-Public network and follow the instructions.



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Museum of
**Natural
History**

Oxford University Museum of Natural History
Parks Road
Oxford
OX1 3PW
01865 272950
info@oum.ox.ac.uk
www.oumnh.ox.ac.uk



@morethanadodo
morethanadodo.com



Museum of
**Natural
History**



What's On

at the Museum of Natural History

September - December 2019



LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE

Every Saturday, 10am – 1pm
14 September – 2 November 2019
Oxford University Museum of Natural History

Aged 15 to 19? Join us in a series of interactive workshops learning about the science of climate change and thinking about how to solve the problem.

Workshops are free and lunch is provided.

For more information and to book a place please contact sarah.lloyd@oum.ox.ac.uk

www.bit.ly/mnhtalkaboutclimate



WHAT'S ON

C Mon 2 Sep, 8-10.20pm ●
Good Natured: A Conservation Optimism Film Festival
A short panel discussion on the importance of filmmaking in conservation, followed by the judges' pick of this year's best international, prize-winning short films.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Thu 5 Sep, 6.30-8pm ●
Facets of Nature
What makes our most beautiful gemstones sparkle? Find out with Head of Mineralogy and Petrology Rob Knight and UK Facet Cutter's Guild President Jamie Richardson.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Mon 9 Sep, 10.30am & 11.30am ○
A Little Look at... Alice's Animals
Meet the animals from *Alice in Wonderland* on this under 5s tour.

Tue 10 Sep, 6.30-7.30pm ●
When Life Got Hard
Museum researcher Dr Duncan Murdoch tells us about the first animals that built skeletons and what they did with them.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Sat 14 Sep, 10am-5pm ●
Taxidermy Masterclass
Learn to prepare your own taxidermy specimen with professional taxidermist Derek Frampton. Specimens and all equipment provided. **£250.**
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhtickets

C Sat 14 Sep, 10am-2pm ●
Let's Talk About Climate
The first in a series of six interactive workshops about the science of climate change and solutions to the problem. See inside front cover for details or visit: **www.bit.ly/mnhtalkaboutclimate**

Tue 17 Sep, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ○
Curious Cubs
Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with our furry friends.

Sat 21 Sep, 10am-1pm & 2-5pm ●
First Impressions Print Workshop
Make your own intaglio print inspired by the First Animals exhibition using an etching press. With Rahima Kenner from Oxford Printmakers Co-operative.
£35. Book at www.bit.ly/mnhtickets

Sat 21 Sep, 10am-5pm ●
Taxidermy Masterclass
Learn to prepare your own taxidermy specimen with professional taxidermist Derek Frampton. Specimens and all equipment provided. **£250.**
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhtickets

C Sat 28 Sep, 10am-4pm, Drop-in ●
Heading for Extinction?
Extinction Rebellion Oxford and Conservation Optimism join forces to illustrate current threats and possible solutions to the biodiversity and climate crisis. Films, performances, music and talks.

Sat 5 Oct, 9-10am ○
Autism Friendly Opening
Relaxed morning opening for families in a quiet environment. **To book email: education@oum.ox.ac.uk**

Thu 10 Oct, 10.30-11am ●
First Animals Tour
A tour of the *First Animals* exhibition with members of the team.

Mon 14 Oct, 10.30am & 11.30am ○
A Little Look at... Oceans
Dive with us on this ocean exploration tour for under 5s.

All events are free unless stated otherwise, but donations help support our programme. For the full programme across the Oxford University Gardens, Libraries and Museums see **www.glam.ox.ac.uk/whats-on**

Mon 14 Oct, 7-8.30pm ●
Oxfordshire Mammal Group Lectures
Oxfordshire Mammal Group launch their annual winter lecture series... Something furry this way comes! Details at: **www.oxonmammals.org**

Thu 17 Oct, 7-8pm ●
A Venerable Nut
Robin Laurance uncovers and explores the coconut's role in history, its influence on modern-day living, and its potential to shape our future. **Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

R Fri 18 Oct, 3.30-4.30pm, Drop-in ●
Evolution of a Song Cycle
Prof John Holmes leads a discussion with composer Cheryl Frances-Hoad, poet Kelley Swain and performers for the evening's world premiere performance of *Endless Forms Most Beautiful* by Carola Darwin (concert ticketed separately as below). **www.oxfordlieder.co.uk**

R Fri 18 Oct, 5.45-6.30pm ●
Concert: Endless Forms Most Beautiful
Carola Darwin, descendent of Charles Darwin, joins forces with the Gildas String Quartet to perform the world premiere of a musical piece inspired by the Museum's 2016 poets in residence, and composed by Cheryl Frances-Hoad. **£16. Book at www.oxfordlieder.co.uk**

Tue 22 Oct, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ○
Curious Cubs
Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with our furry friends.

Tue 22 Oct, 6.30-7.30pm ●
Jurassic Brain Teasers
Dr Stephan Lautenschlager, the 2019 Palaeontological Association Exceptional Lecturer, explains how modern computer technology allows palaeontologists to study the brain anatomy of fossil animals.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Fri 25 Oct, 6-7.30pm ●
Rewilding Europe
First British showing of ARTE documentary *Rewilding Europe*, followed by a panel discussion on the latest European rewilding projects with experts from the film.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Mon 28 - Weds 30 Oct, 1-4pm, Drop-in ○
First Animals: Half-term Activities
What did the first animals look like? Where did they come from? Join us for crafts and specimen handling.

Tue 29 Oct, 6.30-8pm ●
Specimen Standoff
Researchers try to convince us why their fossils and research are better than anyone else's. Vote for your favourites!
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

R Thu 7 Nov, 6.30-7.30pm ●
The Pre-Raphaelites and Science
Prof John Holmes explains how the Museum is the perfect place to appreciate the Pre-Raphaelites' scientific revolution in art. **Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Fri 8 Nov, 8-10pm, Doors 7.30pm ●
Stand-up for Evolution
The Jericho Comedy team offer their take on the themes of our *First Animals* exhibition. **£8.80/£6.60. Book at www.wegottickets.com**

- Adults and young people
- Families
- Suitable for all
- C** Climate Emergency events
- R** Ruskin 200 events

Mon 11 Nov, 10.30am & 11.30am ○
A Little Look at... Forest Friends
Help us to find some of our forest friends on this under 5s tour.

Mon 11 Nov, 7-8.30pm ●
Troglodite Elephants and the Search for Early Man
Chris Powles describes the world of the remarkable salt-mining elephants of Mount Elgon, Kenya, and the threats they face. **www.oxonmammals.org**

Fri 15 Nov, 7-10pm, Drop-in ●
Late Night Diversity
Experience a night of the amazing diversity of the natural world and human culture. With Pitt Rivers Museum. **Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Tue 19 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ○
Curious Cubs
Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with our furry friends.

Tue 19 Nov, 6.30-7.30pm ●
Diversity of Animals: Darwin to DNA
Prof Peter Holland looks at the role of genetics and development in animal diversity and evolution.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhtickets

R Thu 21 Nov, 7-9pm ●
An Evening with Ruskin
Live performances of a selection of Ruskin's key works, with a Victorian-inspired scientific soiree of activities and bar. **£5 Book at www.bit.ly/mnhtickets**

Sat 23 Nov, 12-4pm, Drop-in ○
Super Science Saturday: Oceans
Meet scientists at this science fair jamboree to discover what's been happening in the oceans over millions of years.

Tue 3 Dec, 6.30-7.30pm ●
The Chronicles of *Charnia*
Museum researcher Dr Frankie Dunn talks about her work on 570-million-year-old fossils and the rise of the animals.
Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents

Mon 9 Dec, 10.30am & 11.30am ○
A Little Look at... Tall & Small
Who's the tallest and who's the smallest in the animal world? An under 5s tour.

Mon 9 Dec, 7-8.30pm ●
The Return of the Pine Marten
Recovering in areas of Scotland and Wales, the pine marten is arguably Britain's most charismatic mammal. Expert Johnny Birks tells us more. **www.oxonmammals.org**

Wed 11 Dec, 6-7pm ●
The Cambrian Explosion: The Evidence of Exceptionally Preserved Fossils
Yale University's Prof Derek Briggs on the discovery of soft-bodied fossils at sites such as the Burgess Shale in Canada and Chengjiang in China, which reveal remarkable animal evolution over 500 million years ago. **Book at www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Tue 17 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm, Drop-in ○
Curious Cubs
Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with our furry friends.

Science Shorts
2.30-3pm ●
Sat 7 Sep; Sat 5 Oct; Sat 2 Nov; Sat 7 Dec
Short talks on the latest research around the themes of our *First Animals* exhibition.

REGULAR EVENTS

Spotlight Specimens ●
Monday-Thursday, 2.30pm (except during Family Friendly activities)
An informal specimen show-and-tell in the Museum court.

Architecture Tours ●
Every Friday, 2.30pm & 3.15pm (except during school holidays)
Take a free volunteer-led tour to learn about the Museum's Grade 1-listed building.

Family Friendly Sundays ○
Every Sunday, 2-4pm, Drop-in
Family Friendly trails, crafts, backpacks and more, all provided by Museum volunteers.

Science Saturdays ○
Every Saturday, 19 October - 7 December (except 23 November), 2-4pm, Drop-in
Meet scientists to investigate real natural history specimens from the collection. 8+

Café Scientifique ●
Second Tuesday every month, 7-9pm
Meet prominent researchers from a variety of sciences to discuss their work.
www.bit.ly/mnhcafesci

Object Handling ●
Saturdays, 11am-1pm, Drop-in
Handle specimens to learn more about the Museum's collections.

Ancient Oceans Family Trail ○
10 August 2019 - 24 February 2020
Explore some of the first animals that lived in the oceans hundreds of millions of years ago with our fun trail.

Christmas Critters Family Trail ○
21 December 2019 - 5 January 2020
Join us for a festive Christmas trail to explore the Museum's collections.

SMALLER DISPLAYS

Presenting... Birds of Paradise
4 July - 3 September
Introducing Paradisaeidae – jewels of the sky. Single-case display.

Presenting... Ruskin's 'Mountains in Miniature'
4 September - 5 November
Rocks and minerals from the collections of John Ruskin. Single-case display.

The Unexpected Art of Woodland Management
August - December
Learn about fire, clay, wood-fire pottery kilns and sustainable woodland management.

Ruskin 200 Young Artists
7 August - 30 September
Artworks produced by 5-15 year old artists as part of our Ruskin 200 year of activities.

Presenting... The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
6 November - 8 January 2020
From scrappy doodles to beautifully coloured plates: tracing the creative process through the entomological illustrations of John Obadiah Westwood. Single-case display.