

Create a Little Exhibit of BIG Things

Build your own exhibit with objects from the UAMN collections!

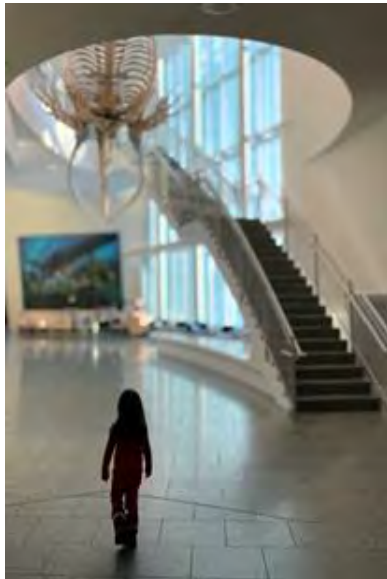


Image: Andy Padilla.

Have you ever visited a museum? If so, what did you see and experience? What kinds of objects, specimens, or art did you see? What kinds of stories did the exhibits tell? Did you see BIG things? Get inspired to create your own exhibit! On your next visit to the UA Museum of the North, look for the BIG objects in the exhibits!

Materials Needed: Museum Exhibit template (or print your own), pictures of museum objects, scissors, glue, tape, coloring supplies.

Optional extension: To create a larger diorama, use a shoebox instead of the template!

Instructions:

Step 1: Prepare the Museum Exhibit Template:

Cut out the triangles on the bottom corners, then fold on the dotted lines to make the display stand up. Tape the corners to hold in place.

Optional: Print or glue template to cardstock to make it sturdier.



Step 2: Create your exhibit of BIG things:

Look at the pictures of museum objects, and decide which big things to include in your exhibit. Select objects that help tell a story, and cut them out. Remember to include the label information! You can also draw more pictures to add or use actual objects such as animal figurines.



Arrange your pictures on the exhibit template. Fitting large objects in an exhibit is a challenge! Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, glue the pictures down.

Step 3: Add visitors: A museum needs visitors! Add benches, signs, and visitors. (Fold the tabs on the visitor silhouettes to make them stand upright.) Have fun giving your visitors a museum tour!

Discover Big Things at UAMN!

Many BIG things are on display at the Museum of the North!

A bowhead whale skeleton hangs from the lobby ceiling. It measures 42 ft (12.8 m) in length and the bones weigh 1830 lbs (830 kg)!



Bowhead Whale. UAF photo by JR Ancheta.



Mammoth and mastodon fossils.

A tall grizzly bear welcomes visitors in the Gallery of Alaska, where a mammoth skull and other large Alaskan animals from the past and present are on display. Visitors can see large cultural objects such as an umiak, kayaks, and Chilkat robes, as well as many large works of art. Many more BIG objects are in the collections but not on display, including dinosaur fossils and huge rocks and minerals.

Some museum objects are just too big to be on display inside the museum. For example, Ben Eielson's Curtiss JN-4D "Jenny" airplane is on display at the Fairbanks International Airport.



Right: Curtiss Jenny airplane. Image: Theresa Bakker.

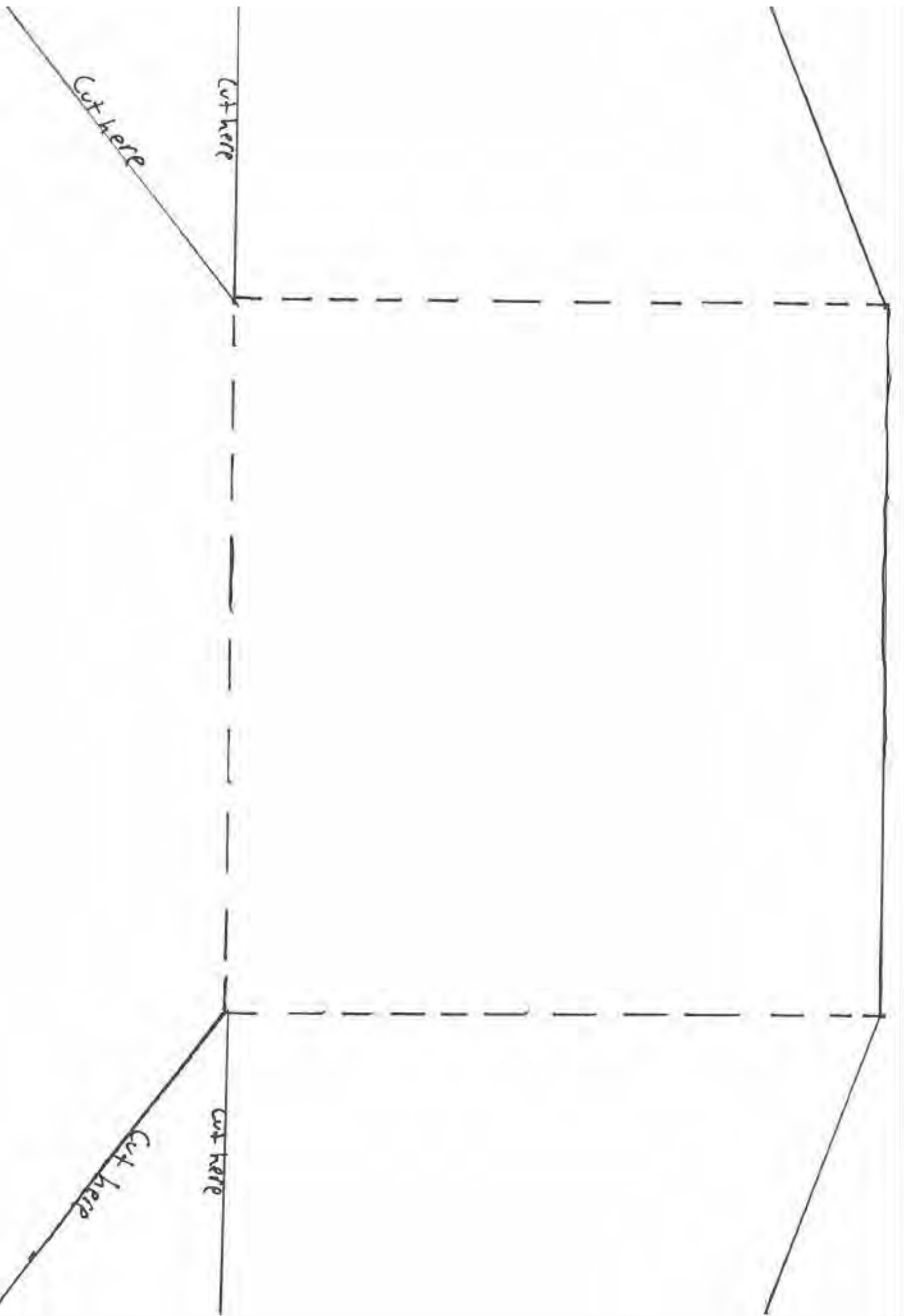
Several sculptures, a totem pole, whale bones, a pipeline "pig", and a blockhouse are on around the museum grounds. In 2020, the museum became the home of Bus 142 (the "Into the Wild" bus) which will become an outdoor exhibit in the next few years.

The UA Museum of the North's big and small objects together make up some of the BIGGEST collections of its kind in the world! The museum's collections include more than 2.5 million artifacts and specimens representing millions of years of biological diversity and thousands of years of cultural traditions in the North.

Right: Students and scientists are conducting ongoing research in the museum's mammal department.



Museum Exhibit Template



Museum Objects

Images are not to scale.



Intertidal Pools,
Steve Gordon, 1999



Drifting Forms
Ree Nancarrow, 1999



Great Alaska Outhouse Experience
Craig Buchanan, 2005



Purse, Arctic Village,
ca. 1935



Oscar Scared Him with His Icon
Alvin Amason, 1977



Tools from Quartz
Lake, 200 to 1000
years old



Drum and Stick, Chronicles of Raven
Michael Dangeli



The Muries in Alaska
Rusty Heurlin



Statue of Liberty Doll
by Rosalie Paniyak



Raven Flood Totem Pole by
students at Mt. Edgecumbe
School, 1946



*The Next Generation Berry
Picker and The Great Hunter*
Earl Auralria Atchak



Chilkat Robe (mid-late 1800s)



What Is My Story?
by Drew Michael



Model Canoe



At The Time of Whaling (video), 1975



Fish Traps (Yup'ik, 1954)



Sewing Machine
UA80-23-23

Museum Objects

Images are not to scale.



Juvenile *Ugrunaaluk kuukpikensis*



In The Arctic, No Creature is Respected And Feared More Than The Polar Bear
by Michio Hoshino



Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*)



Trans-Alaska Pipeline



Pleistocene of Alaska by Jay Matternes



Bald Eagle
(*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)



Adult King Salmon
(*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)



Alaskan Blue Butterfly
Plebejus idas alaskensis



Bowhead Whale skull
(*Balaena mysticetus*)



Blue Babe: Steppe Bison
(*Bison priscus*)



DNA Model



Shell of a Common Northwest Neptune
(*Neptunea lyrata*)



Siberian Aster
(*Eurybia sibirica*)

Museum Objects

Images are not to scale.



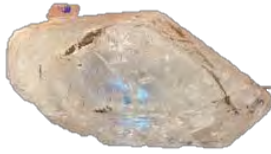
Ectoplasmic Salmon Settee #1
by Ray Troll & Donald Varnell



Woolly Mammoth Skull
(*Mammuthus primigenius*)



Petrified wood, about
55 million years old



Quartz Crystal (425 pounds, found
at Walker Lake, Brooks Range)



Copper Nugget (5495 pounds)



Jade boulder (3,550 pounds)

Museum Signs, Benches, and Visitors

