

Hearst Elementary School

Third-grade mathematicians and scientists recently took a trip to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History to conduct data collection for our Cornerstone 3! The field trip was fun. We saw plenty of different animals. We had packets that we used to collect special data for the number and types of vertebrates and invertebrates we saw. We searched for vertebrates by looking for mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. When it came to invertebrates, we saw anthropoids, mollusks, sponges, sea stars, urchins and worms.

There were a lot of great exhibits for us to explore for our data collection at the museum. We saw mummies, early humans, bugs, and a coral reef full of clownfish, turtles, crabs and other animals. In the bugs section, some of us got to hold a grasshopper! Others of us explored the dinosaur exhibit and touched a real piece of triceratops frill! What a day we had!

We used the data we collected to practice our graphing. We created bar graphs and pictographs to reflect the numbers of vertebrates and invertebrates we saw on our visit. We can't wait to share our findings with the Natural History Museum.

— *Ms. McCranor's third-grade math class*